

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Syndicate
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

Hassan returns from Britain

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Monday returned home after a several-day visit to the United Kingdom. Prince Hassan was received by Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid and Royal Court Secretary General Rajai Dajani in addition to senior government officials. Prince Hassan Tuesday presides over a three-day Asian-Arab meeting of the Arab Thought Forum (ATF), at the Royal Cultural Centre. Taking part in the conference will be 36 personalities from the Arab World, India, Pakistan, Malaysia, Indonesia, Bangladesh and Turkey. Conference will discuss issues pertaining to dialogue between the North and the South, administration of resources, promoting economic relations between Arab countries and Asian states in addition to cultural relations between the two worlds.

W. Bank majority favours PNC in Amman

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The vast majority of the 1.3 million Palestinians living in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip favour the convening of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman on Nov. 22 and support Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, according to Israeli experts, foreign diplomats and opinion polls quoted by the Reuters news agency.

However opponents of the PLO move to convene the Palestine National Council in Amman as scheduled are also active in campaigning against the PLO chairman and his policies, according to reports.

Palestinian newspapers published in East Jerusalem were Monday filled with notices calling for the PNC to meet on Thursday. Only two small papers, one backed by the Communists and the other by Syria, oppose the meeting. In bitter editorials, they have labelled leading PLO leaders "collaborators and traitors."

Raymond Tawil, a prominent journalist whose car was bombed by the opposition, told Reuters the meeting should be held even if it meant a final split in the PLO.

She said Palestinians under Israeli occupation favoured a PLO link with Amman and Cairo "and if the Syrians want to follow afterwards, they will be welcome."

A Western diplomat who watches West Bank developments told Reuters Ms. Tawil's view was widely shared. "Those who have lived under occupation for 17 years want only to get rid of it. They have a much more pragmatic approach than those in the diaspora," he said.

Israel has forbidden West Bank residents from attending the PNC meeting, saying the PLO was a "terrorist" organisation.

On Saturday, 2,000 Palestinians negotiated military roadblocks to attend two counter-demonstrations at a West Bank university over the convening of the PNC, as scheduled.

Jordanian trade union disowns cable to Thatcher

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Secretary General of the General Federation of Jordanian Trade Unions (GJTU) Samir Qardan denied Monday that the federation has sent a cable to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher condemning the British government's "oppressive and arbitrary measures" against striking coal miners.

The cable was sent by only three "radical" associations within the federation and "has nothing to do with us," Mr. Qardan told the Jordan Times.

The chairman of the Health Services Association (HSA), Issa Khashan, contacted by telephone, said that the HSA, together with the Textile and Weaving Association headed by Fatallah Omrani and the Bankers and Accountants Associations chaired by Yousef Hourani, sent a cable calling on the British government "to compromise with the striking coalminers" and to meet their legitimate demands. A copy of the cable was sent to the British National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) expressing the federation's solidarity with the miners, Mr. Khashan said.

Following are excerpts of the cable, according to Mr. Khashan: "In the name of thousands of workers in Jordan, we declare our solidarity with the striking coalminers and ask the British government to cease the arbitrary and oppressive measures against them and to meet their demands." Mr. Khashan said the cable was discussed by the GJTU before it was sent, but was signed only by three associations.

In his statement to the Jordan Times, Mr. Qardan said that although the federation endorses the rights of workers wherever they were, but "if such a cable is to be sent, we need the approval of the central council of the GJTU as well as the endorsement of the 17-member association. 'Only after that is reached, we will send such a cable,' Mr. Qardan said.

2,200 miners reporting to work, British Coal Board says, page 5



Former Libyan Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Bakouh, now living in exile in Egypt, acts dead in a photograph that the Egyptian intelligence used to trick Libya into announcing his "execution" (AP wirephoto)

Hawatmeh heads for Moscow

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Representatives of pro-Soviet Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) groups left for Moscow Monday for what a Palestinian official described as "important" talks with Kremlin leaders on the future of the fragmented liberation movement.

The trip comes amid a dispute between pro-Syrian factions and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat over the latter's call for a meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman on Thursday. The delegation to Moscow was led by Nayef Hawatmeh, leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), who is considered the closest Kremlin ally among PLO leaders.

A DFLP official said Mr. Hawatmeh was accompanied by representatives from other factions in the so-called "democratic alliance." These are the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Palestine Liberation Front and the Palestinian Communist Party.

The DFLP official, who asked not to be named, said: "The delegation of the 'democratic alliance' will hold important talks on the future of the Palestinian cause." Mr. Hawatmeh has been trying to mediate an end to the PLO rift. He is one of the few Palestinian leaders who has not declared definitively whether he will attend the PNC meeting called by Mr. Arafat, and his decision could reflect Moscow's stand on the issue.

There have been reports of disagreement between Syria, which supports rebellious PLO factions seeking to topple Mr. Arafat, and Moscow, which has continued to support the PLO leader.

Meanwhile, Syrian President Hafez Al Assad met in Damascus with PNC Speaker Khaled Fahoum and PFLP leader George Habash. The official Syrian news agency said the talks focused on the PNC meeting and the inter-Palestinian problems.

Mr. Fahoum, a close Syrian ally, has turned down Mr. Arafat's call for a meeting and so has the Damascus-based PFLP.

S. Yemen urges unity

Meanwhile, the president of South Yemen on Monday urged the PLO leadership to patch up their differences before trying to convene the PNC, the Gulf news agency reported from Bahrain.

All Nasser Mohammad sent a message to Mr. Arafat saying "any step that could further the (Palestinian) force should be avoided and that includes inviting the Palestinian National Council to meet without prior comprehensive national agreement."

President Nasser Mohammad is one of the Arab leaders actively engaged in trying to heal the intra-Palestinian rifts.

"The current condition of the Palestinian revolution necessitates maximum degree of wisdom from all units of the Palestinian resistance in the interest of preserving its unity," Mr. Nasser Mohammad said, describing the PLO as the greatest achievement secured by the struggle and sacrifice of the Palestinian people.

Stage set for PNC session in Amman

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The battle for holding the 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman on Thursday is now virtually over. Fateh has secured the two-third quorum it needs to convene the council on schedule.

This was the assessment Monday of not only the pro-PNC camp but also of the groups opposed to the session as well as observers. The proponents of the PNC might have had doubts about how many delegates they could muster for the council session a few days ago, but on Monday a Fateh official said confidently: "Today we have no doubts at all. All is set to go. The PNC will convene as planned on Thursday."

Although opponents of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) decision to convene the much-delayed PNC session in Amman as scheduled have claimed that up to 180 of the 379 members of the council are not going to attend the planned session, they admit that this does not really constitute an obstacle since Fateh can, through provisions laid down in the PLO statute, replace a

big number of those before the council is actually convened.

According to its statute the PNC consists of three categories of members:

— Independent members who cannot be replaced before convening the council;

— Representatives of various factions which constitute the PLO;

— and representatives of various popular Palestinian organisations.

Tackling the issue of attendance by representatives of various PLO factions the PNC proponents have taken advantage of the provision that any of these factions can name their representatives in the PNC any time before or after convening the PNC. The eight factions of the PLO are given a quota of membership in the council and apparently the PNC organisers are counting on renaming the existing representatives of certain factions

opposing the PNC session.

For instance, Fateh can easily replace any of its PNC representatives who have joined Syrian-backed dissidents in the commando movement. "Fateh will use this card to bring in three unexpected factions to attend the PNC," according to the sources.

The issue of the representatives in the PNC of Popular Palestinian organisations, which include professional unions and associations, is more complex than the PLO factions' representation in the council.

Despite provisions in the PNC statute rules out renaming representatives of these organisations, there have been a number of precedents when such representatives were actually replaced before the PNC was convened. Experts on the statute told the Jordan Times that "although the PNC opponents can charge that Fateh violated the statute, precedents will show that it will not be for the first time."

Incidentally, almost all Palestinian trade unions, professional associations and other popular organisations are dominated by Fateh supporters.

A well-known Palestinian lawyer, who is opposed to the idea of

(Continued on page 4)

PNC to reiterate call for confederal ties with Jordan

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC), which is scheduled to meet here next Thursday, will reiterate earlier PNC resolutions calling for confederal ties between Jordan and an independent Palestinian state on the now occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and would elect a new Executive Committee, a senior Palestinian official said Monday.

Ahmad Abdul Rahman, the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) spokesman, told reporters at a press conference that the planned PNC session will confirm resolutions endorsed at the 16th session in Algiers in February, 1983, covering relations with Jordan.

The PLO spokesman also disclosed that the new Executive

Committee to be elected by the 17th PNC session, will not include representatives of Syrian-backed factions of the PLO.

The current 14-member Executive Committee headed by Yasser Arafat includes two representatives of pro-Syrian factions — Talal Naji of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) and Mohammad Khalifa from Saiga.

Mohsen Abu Maizar, an independent with pro-Syrian Baathist political inclinations, is also considered to be representing Syrian views within the PLO ever since he backed dissidents in the Fateh movement, the mainstream commando group, who rose against Mr. Arafat's leadership in May 1983.

Mr. Abdul Rahman, who is a member of the Fateh Revolutionary Council, said that the

PLO will no longer tolerate "agents of Arab countries in its leadership."

"We want independent Palestinians, not agents of Arab countries, to lead our revolution," he said.

According to the Fateh official one of the major reasons that make Syria oppose the convening of the PNC is that Damascus does not want the PLO factions it backs to be expelled from the PLO or even condemned by the council for attacking Palestinian refugee camps in north Lebanon last year.

Mr. Abdul Rahman was referring to battles between Fateh fighters and the Syrian-backed rebels in and around the Lebanese port of Tripoli and which compelled Mr. Arafat and 2,000 of his supporters to leave north Lebanon in December 1983.

(Continued on page 4)

Turkish diplomat shot dead in Vienna

VIENNA (Agencies) — A Turkish diplomat was shot dead in his car in central Vienna Monday by a gunman who threw a cloth over the body bearing the name of an extremist Armenian group.

Police said Evner Ergun, 52, an employee of the United Nations here since 1979, was killed outright when the hooded gunman fired six shots into his red Mercedes car.

Mr. Ergun, who was married with one son, was waiting at a red light at a busy street which crosses Vienna's elegant Ringstrasse, the city's main traffic artery.

A police spokesman said the gunman leaned through the shattered car window and draped a white cloth over the body with the words "Armenian Revolutionary Army — ARA" printed in blue ink.

The ARA also claimed responsibility for a car bomb blast in Vienna last June which killed a Turkish diplomat and seriously injured an Austrian policeman.

Armenian extremists, who accuse Turkey of murdering hundreds of thousands of their people in 1915, have claimed responsibility in the last decade for killing more than 30 Turks around the world, mainly diplomats and their relatives.

Turkey denies the massacre charge.

Israel rejects Lebanese demand; Berri renews threat to quit talks

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Israel and Lebanon Monday held a third round of talks aimed at an Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon as Lebanese minister Nabih Berri announced Israel of assassinating Shi'ite Muslim clerics in the occupied south and hinted Lebanon might walk out anew from the talks.

During Monday's talks Israel rejected a Lebanese demand, made last Thursday, for reparations of some \$10 billion for damages caused by its 1982 invasion. It also refused to release Lebanese prisoners detained in South Lebanon and other detention camps until resistance attacks against the occupation troops ended.

Lebanon has said it has been decided to drop consideration of the demand for reparations to confine the talks to security and military questions.

Israeli delegation chief Brigadier-General Amos Gilboa was quoted by an Israeli spokesman as saying: "The Israeli delegation categorically rejects this request because the talks are being held for security arrangements."

The two military delegations, meeting at the heavily guarded headquarters of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) in the southern Lebanese village of Naqura, discussed plans for deployment of the Lebanese army and U.N. peacekeepers. They will meet again on Wednesday.

Israel, which is holding 1,000 Lebanese in one detention camp alone, also turned down Monday a Lebanese call to release prisoners and reopen crossings between north and South Lebanon while resistance attacks on its troops continued.

"We say that Israel... will not undertake such measures as long as there are attacks against our soldiers," said Gen. Gilboa.

As Monday's talks drew to a close, Mr. Berri said in a Beirut Radio broadcast:

"It (Israel) attacks notables, ulemas (clerics) and leaders in an attempt to empty the south of its nationalistic and Islamic tendencies," said Mr. Berri, who also heads Lebanon's largest Shi'ite militia, "Amal."

"We cannot stand handcuffed in the face of these practices. We shall debate taking the necessary measures concerning the negotiations and the protection of our people" in occupied South Lebanon Mr. Berri added.

His statement was triggered by the death Sunday of Sheikh Abdul Latif Al Amin in a U.N. clinic in Naqura from gunshot wounds he suffered in an attempt on his life last Wednesday.

Before Mr. Berri's threat was issued, the Beirut-based Higher Shi'ite Council, the sect's supreme spiritual leadership, formally announced Mr. Amin's death in a statement that blamed his assassination on "Israel and its agents."

Za'anoun challenges Fahoum

AMMAN (J.P.) — The deputy speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC), Mr. Salim Za'anoun, Monday challenged Mr. Khaled Fahoum, the PNC speaker who is boycotting the session, to come to Amman to chair the council himself. "If Mr. Fahoum is indeed sure of his claim that 180 PNC members would not attend the PNC session, I call upon him to come and count the delegates that will attend," Mr. Za'anoun told Jordan Television in an interview. "I am fully confident that Thursday's meeting will be attended by more than the two-third majority needed for the quorum." Mr. Za'anoun added. Mr. Fahoum has refused to call the council to session when called upon by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat to do so earlier this month. The PNC speaker lives in Damascus and is known to support Syrian views on the PLO rift. Mr. Za'anoun will be chairing the PNC if Mr. Fahoum does not show up for the meeting.

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Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; Iraq 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Sharif Zaid, U.S. admiral hold talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Monday received in his office the chief of the American fleet in the Middle East, Admiral Adams, and held talks with him. The meeting was attended by Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu Taleb.

Arafat to visit London next month

LONDON (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat plans to make his first visit to Britain next month but it will be strictly private, the Foreign Office said Monday. The visit, believed to be planned for Dec. 22, will be to help launch Mr. Arafat's biography, written by British author Alan Hart, Arab sources in London said. The date has not yet been approved by the British government. A Foreign Office spokesman emphasised the visit would be purely private and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader would not meet any government officials.

Jawara pursues Gulf peace bid

ANKARA (R) — Gambia President Sir Dawda Jawara will arrive in Ankara Monday to discuss peace efforts by Islamic countries to end the Iran-Iraq war. Turkish Foreign Ministry officials said Monday, Mr. Jawara, who heads a seven-member peace committee of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), wanted to consult Turkish President Kenan Evren about the activities of the committee, the officials said. Turkey is a member of the committee.

Magazine pays damages to KAL

LONDON (R) — A defence magazine Monday agreed to pay substantial libel damages to Korean Airlines (KAL) over an article which implied the KAL jetliner, shot down by the Soviet Union last year was on a spying mission. The agreement was announced in the high court by lawyers for the London-based magazine Defence Attaché, who said publishers Diplomatist Associates and editor Rupert Penningly accepted there was no foundation for the allegation.

Over 80 dead in Mexico blasts

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A series of pre-dawn explosions at a natural gas processing complex rocked the Mexican capital Monday, followed by a huge fire that sent a pall of smoke more than a mile up in the air. Authorities and rescue workers said at least 80 people were killed and "hundreds" injured. Officials said shortly after the explosion that "nearly 400 persons were injured and 21 killed, according to preliminary reports." A worker with the private volunteer rescue organisation Laser, reported another 35, also died in the holocaust that blasted around 33 acres in a poor working people's district were devastated by the first explosion.

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CAIRO (R) — Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi said Monday Egypt had asked the 10-nation European Community (EC) to play a more effective role in the Middle East peace process.

Weizman: Ties with Egypt is key to Mideast peace

U.K. diplomat flown home after car crash in Iran

The National News Agency (RNA) said the car and a pickup with the United Nations in Iran were also admitted to hospital.

Italy felt there could be no Middle East peace settlement without a recognition of Palestinian rights, he said.

Syrian premier in Sofia

drought victims
RIYADH (R) — Saudi Arabia's

No further details were given of the aid programme for African countries such as Ethiopia.

ACCUSED ASSASSINS — Undated photos of four men, alleged to be Libyan agents, who have been arrested by Egyptian authorities and charged with the attempted assassination of former Libyan Prime Minister Abdel Halim Bakhouch. The men are Britons Anthony William Gill, 48, (top right) and Godfrey Chiner, 47, (top left) and Maltese Edgar Bonic Cacia (bottom left) and Romeo Nicholas Chakambari, 42, (AP wirephoto)

Iran's 'hanging judge' defends record

by sending in tanks and hanging 94 people, including four leaders whose bodies were later found

His statement said he had almost eliminated Iran's drug problem, not by executions but thr-

Iran tightens conscription to foil draft dodgers

Col. Razmjju referred to people getting out of military service by obtaining documents and of protests by people who saw others

"In the new law, exemption will be given only to solve personal family problems and not to shirk military service," the colonel said.

U.N. cancels PoW probe

But Iran later insisted that it should visit Iraq first — a condition that Iraq rejected.

Paris silent over Chad despite press attacks

Mr. Mitterrand Sunday ordered reconnaissance flights over Chad and sent Defence Minister Cha-

"We are therefore against terrorism just as much as we are for the Lebanese National Resistance

Mr. Assad, in a broadcast aired Sunday, denied his country had been involved in the bombings of

1982 bombing attack against an anti-Syrian publication in central Paris.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

17:00 Koton
17:15 Cartoons
17:30 Children's Programmes
18:30 Sports
19:30 Programme Review
19:40 News Programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:15 Local Programme
21:15 Arabic Series
22:15 Programme Review
22:30 Varieties
23:00 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

17:30 German Programme
18:00 French Programme: Operation
Overt

19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:15 Comedy: Tom, Dick & Harry
21:00 Science International
21:10 Tenko
22:00 News in English
22:15 The Yellow Rose

RADIO JORDAN

35.5 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
+ partly on 9560 KHz. SW

07:30 Light Music
07:30 News Desk
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Morning Show
10:30 Pop Session
11:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
12:05 News Summary
12:15 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 Concert Hour
15:00 Science Fiction
15:05 News Summary
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Old Favorites
16:30 Instrumentals
17:00 News Summary
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Top Twenty
19:00 Newsdesk
19:30 Date with a Star
21:00 Evening Show
21:05 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show
21:55 News Summary
22:00 Evening Show
22:30 News Headlines
23:00 Evening Show
14:00 News Headlines

BBC WORLD SERVICE

630, 720, 1413 KHz.

06:00 Newsline 06:30 Incredible Flautists
06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections
07:00 World News 07:05 24 Hours
News Summary 07:30 News Ideas
07:40 Book Choice 07:45 The World
Today Newsline 08:00 World
Salad 08:00 World News 08:05 24
Hours: News Summary 08:30 Hot Air
09:45 Network UK 10:00 World News
10:05 The Newsline 10:15 Music in the
Age of Chivalry 10:30 Haunted 11:00
World News 11:05 British Press Review
11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial
News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 What's
New 12:00 News Summary 12:05
Discovery 12:30 Monday Masterpiece
13:00 World News 13:05 News about
Britain 13:15 Letter from London 13:25
Scotland: World News 13:30 World
errantical 14:00 Radio Newswelt 14:15
Worlds of Faith 14:45 Sports Round-up
15:00 World News 15:05 24 Hours:
News Summary 15:10 World News
15:45 Recording of the Week 16:00
Outlook 16:45 Talks: Hakuyu's Voyages
17:00 Radio Newswelt 17:15 A Jolly
Good Day 18:00 World News
Commentary 18:15 Omnibus 18:45
The World 19:00 World News 19:05
Meridian 19:40 Scotland This Week
19:45 Newsline 20:00 World News
20:30 Nature Notebook 20:45 The Farming
World 21:00 Outlook: News
Summary 21:30 Stock Market Report
21:35 Newsline 22:00 World News
22:05 24 Hours: News Summary 22:30
Worlds of Faith 23:00 Letter from London
23:10 Book Choice 23:15 Concert
Hour 23:30 The World Today
24:05 Scotland this Week 00:30
Financial News 00:40 Reflections 00:45
Sports Round-up 01:00 World News:
Commentary 01:15 Singers of Schubert
01:30 Meridian

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260, SW 7200, 9563, 11740,
11925 and 12510 KHz.

06:00 VOA Morning: News on the
hour; news summarizing daily business
reports; science and medicine; sports
reports; VOA editorial and world and
U.S. opinion roundups; domestic and
foreign viewpoints; features 17:00 News 17:10
Newstime 17:30 Special English News
and Features 18:00 News 18:10 Focus
18:30 Now Music USA 19:00 News
19:10 Special English News
News and Features 20:00 News 20:10
Focus 20:30 Now Music USA 21:00
Newstime 21:30 Magazine Show 22:00
News and Editorial 22:15 Music USA
19:00 News 23:00

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

- * An exhibition of engineering books at the Faculty of Engineering, Jordan University, in cooperation with the Joint Council from Nov. 14 to Nov. 20th.
- * An exhibition of Jordanian-Chinese stamps at the Royal Cultural Centre, Wednesday. It runs until Nov. 20.
- * An exhibition of ceramics and historical illustrations at Yarmouk University until Nov. 25.

PLAY

- * A play for children (5 to 10) "The Musicians of Bremen and Hansel and Gretel". Haya Arts Centre in cooperation with Goethe Institute at Haya Arts Centre, starting 10.15 a.m. until Nov. 21.

FILM

- * A film entitled "Beringer" (translated into English), starring: Martin Gersbach and Hans Eklöcher at 8 p.m. at the Goethe Institute.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267	American Centre	43771
American Centre Library	41520	
British Council	361147	
French Cultural Centre	37009	
German Institute	41993	
Soviet Cultural Centre	42203	
Spanish Cultural Centre	24049	
Turkish Cultural Centre	39777	
Haya Arts Centre	665199	
Husseini Youth City	667181	
Y.W.C.A.	41793	
Y.W.C.A. Library	666561	
Amman Municipal Library	66111	
University of Jordan Library	843555	

MUSEUMS

Feldman Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). Tel. 661111. Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an extensive collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al-Qal'a (Cliffside Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays) 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, objects and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Woteeah, Jabel Luweideh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.

Martyr's Memorial (Shuhada) Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4.45 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.

Lions Philadelphian Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7.30 p.m.

Philadelphian Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.

Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2.00 p.m.

Royal Automobile Club, Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, tel. 24590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Luweideh, 37440.

De la Sagesse Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hussein, 661757.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman, 41559.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 771261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 771751.

Amman Interdenominational Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsiassi, 816534.

PRAYER TIMES

04:45	Fajr
06:10	(Sunrise) Duha
11:21	Dhuhr
14:15	'Asr
16:24	Maghreb

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 532510, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

06:50	Cairo (MS)
09:30	Aqaba (RJ)
09:45	Dubai (RJ)
09:45	Kuwait (RJ)
09:45	Jeddah (RJ)
09:45	Cairo (RJ)
09:55	Dhahran (RJ)
09:55	Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00	Muscat, Doha (RJ)
10:10	Larnaca, Damascus (RJ)
10:20	Beirut (RJ)
10:35	Dhahran, Riyadh (SV)
10:35	Singapore (RJ)
12:15	Bahrain (GF)
13:50	Mostow (SV)
14:40	Kuwait (RJ)
16:15	Amman (RJ)
17:30	New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:40	Amsterdam, Istanbul (KLM)
19:45	Cairo (RJ)
19:45	Tripoli (RJ)
20:15	Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
20:20	Athens (OA)
22:40	Rome, Damascus (AZ)
22:40	Frankfurt, Omsk (LH)
22:50	Cairo (MSK)
01:10	Cairo (RJ)
06:15	Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES:

05:45	Cairo (RJ)
07:00	Beirut (RJ)
07:00	Aqaba (RJ)
07:50	Cairo (MS)
11:15	Tripoli (RJ)
11:45	Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
11:45	Paris, London (RJ)
12:15	Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:15	Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)
12:15	Istanbul, Bucharest (RJ)
12:20	Frankfurt, Copenhagen (LH)
12:30	Rome (RJ)
13:00	Bahrain (GF)
14:30	Cairo (RJ)
14:30	Mostow (SV)
15:40	Kuwait (KJ)
17:15	Baghdad (IA)
19:30	Kuwait (RJ)
20:35	Dubai (RJ)
20:45	Abu Dhabi, Dhahran (RJ)
21:10	Cairo (RJ)
21:10	Baghdad (RJ)
22:00	Bangkok (RJ)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

- Boloslaw Krowczywy
- Captain Matersev
- Jeddah Crown
- Naiko Nadilo
- Kota Timur
- Midhat
- Arabella
- Al Khassan
- Arkis Star
- Kirkuk
- Jeddah Crown
- Kota Timur
- Khassan

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MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell-off rates in fits

Belgian franc	66f	66.3
Dutch guilder	118.1f	115.8
Egyptian piaster	303f	307
French franc	43.5f	58.3
Iraqi dinar	335.6f	339.8
Indian lire (for 100)	21.4f	21.6
Japanese yen (for 100)	163.6f	164.6
Kuwaiti dinar	1319f	1335.6
Lebanese lira	51.3p	53.4
Omani riyal	1145f	1153.3
Qatari riyal	109f	109.7
Saudi riyal	112f	112.5
Swedish crown	46.4f	46.7
Swiss franc	162f	163
Syrian lira	43.1f	44.1
UAE dirham	108.1f	108.5
U.K. sterling pound	498.1f	501.1
U.S. dollar	397.5f	399.5
W. German mark	133.7f	134.5

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be a fine. Light and variable winds will be becoming southerly moderate in Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and tems calm.

Low/high temperature in deg. C

Aqaba	7/22
Deserts	14/27
Jordan Valley	14/27

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 19, Aqaba 26. Humidity readings: Amman 50 per cent, Aqaba 36

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS

EMERGENCIES		MINIST PHARMACY	
Ambulance	193, 775111	Al Selan pharmacy	770910
Firaid, fire, police	199	Al Wateish pharmacy	29294
Blood bank	775121	Asaf pharmacy	633281
Civil Defence rescue	661111	Faris pharmacy	662928
Fire headquarters	22593-9	Iyad pharmacy	774822
Police rescue	192, 21111, 37777		
Police headquarters	39141	TAXIS:	
Traffic police	56390-1	Neil taxi	44433
Electric Power Co	36381-2	Grand Palace taxi	667079
Telephone water services	771123-6	Moslem City taxi	813813
Queen Alia Int. Airport	(08) 33533	Faisal taxi	22051
		Rashid taxi	22023
		Talal taxi	25021

HOSPITALS		IRRID	
Hussein Medical Centre	813813-32	Dr. Ahmad D. Baniwas	73923
Khalid Maternity, J. Amman	44281-4	Fazaymah pharmacy	74973
Abdullah Maternity, J. Amman	42461		
Tabal Amman Maternity	13362	ZARQA:	
Malhas, J. Amman	36140	Dr. Mouna Odeh	982049
Palestine, Shmeisani	664171-4	Jayssan pharmacy	
Shmeisani Hospital	669131	Al Hayya pharmacy	
Univarsity Hospital	84545		
Dr. Al-Sa'idi, J. Hussein	667158		
Al-Musharraf Hospital	667227-2		
The Islamic, Abdali	665292		
Al-Bashir, Abdali	665114		
Italian, Al-Mudharrah	77101-3		
Al-Bashir, J. Astrafieh	775101		
Army, Marha	91611		

NIGHT DUTY		GENERAL	
AMMAN:		Jordan Television	778111
Dr. Zein Zaphlani	38591	Radio Jordan	774111
Dr. Yousef Sammour	675648	Ministry of Tourism	666412
		Hotel complaints	666412
		Price complaints	661776
		Telephone	
		Information	12
		Jordan and Middle East calls	10
		Emergency calls	10
		Cable or telegram	18
		Repair services	11

MARKET PRICES	
<i>Upper price in file per bag</i>	
Apple (Amber red)	200
Apple (golden)	200/170
Apple (starion)	200/170
Banana	280/240
Custard (Mulkasima)	240/200
Beans	300/250
Broad beans	600/550
Cabbage	140/130
Celentari	2287/850
Carrot	120/90
Cauliflower	140/120
Chenabur (large)	100/90
Chenabur (small)	150/140
Dates	200/170
Eggplant (large)	100/70
Eggplant (small)	70/130
Garlic	180/150
Green peas	220/180
Grapefruit	110/80
Lemon	160/170
Orange	600/450
Mandarin	150/120
Mazrou (large)	100/80
Mazrou (small)	150/160
Onion (red)	170/140
Onion (green)	240/200
Okra	600/250
Oliver (green)	420/360
Oliver (black)	500/400
Orange (Nassim)	140/120
Potato	100/100
Peas (Amman)	240/200
Pepper (green)	170/120
Pepper (red)	160/140
Potatoes (new)	400/350
Potatoes	400/350
Radishes	120/110
Schuch	180/150

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cabinet promotes Yousef, Tarawneh

AMMAN (PT) — The Cabinet has decided to promote Public Security Director Lieutenant General Diab Yousef and Director General of the Civil Defence Department Lieutenant General Khaled Al Tarawneh to the rank of general, according to a report in the Al-Rai Arabic daily newspaper Monday.

Nsour, envoys review cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Planning Abdullah Al Nsour Monday discussed with American Ambassador to Jordan Paul Baker means of consolidating cooperation between Jordan and the United States in the field of planning. Mr. Nsour also discussed bilateral relations with Switzerland during a meeting with Swiss Ambassador to Jordan Andre Lois Vallon.

Transport official departs for maritime talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Transport Under-Secretary Nabil Arafat Monday left for Baghdad to take part in the meetings of the International Maritime Association.

Irbid agriculture station sows wheat

AMMAN (Petra) — The Irbid Agriculture Department has completed sowing 400 dunums of land at Marou agricultural station with wheat seeds and 440 dunums with barley. The Irbid agriculture director called on all farmers to sow their land with seeds and to benefit from the experiences of the agricultural stations.

Teams continue desert search for missing men

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A search for two men reported missing last week in the area between Zila and Dab'ah, some 40 kilometres south of Amman, continued Monday with the participation of rescue teams from the Civil Defence Department (CDD), the Public Security Department (PSD) and the Badieh (desert) police.

The bus which carried the two men on the desert road in that area during heavy rains was found Saturday, a spokesman for the Civil Defence Department said. However, there was no trace of the two men who are believed to have been swept by flash floods.

Lieutenant Awar Jawarneh from the CDD Monday told the Jordan Times that the search for the two citizens from Karak continued with the aid of volunteers from Karak and with the assistance of helicopters from the Royal Jordanian Air Force. He said the lost men were identified as Sa'ad Abdullah Abu Nuwas and Muhammad Abdul Rahim Sarairah, both teachers in Karak.

Li. Jawarneh said that the search will continue until the men are found. He described the area where they were lost as "very dangerous", being a low area threatened always by flash floods and where people could easily lose their way. He said, "at a certain stage we were worried that volunteers, who participated in the search together with the rescue teams, would be lost as well."

Also reported missing as a result of heavy rains earlier this month is a Kurean employee of Hanbo construction company who disappeared from his work site on the eve of the heavy rains in Northern Shouneh area where the company works on the Wadi Al Arab dam project.

The missing man, identified as Lee Hee Young, was reported missing at 8.30 p.m. In an advertisement which appeared in the local press, the Hanbo company offered a reward for whoever finds Mr. Young. The notice called on citizens living in the Shouneh area and in the villages in the Jordan Valley to cooperate in the search for the man.

ARA to promote Aqaba, tourism

AQABA (Petra) — The Aqaba Regional Authority (ARA) is to take part in two international exhibitions for tourism marketing. The first will be held in London from Nov. 25 to Dec. 3 while the second is scheduled to be held in Brussels between Nov. 22 - 26.

ARA President Mohammad Sa'ed Abu Nowwar said that the authority has prepared a booklet

on Aqaba city to be distributed to participants in the two exhibitions. He also pointed out that the ARA has prepared joint programmes in coordination with the Tourism Authority for participation in tourism marketing exhibitions held throughout the world.

The programme is aimed at supporting the hotel sector in

AWF prepares for Nairobi conference

Noor to patronise Arab women's discussion today

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor today patronises meetings of the Arab Women's Federation General Secretariat, which will be held at the Amman Chamber of Industry headquarters.

The AWF's achievements and preparations for the Nairobi conference, which will be held next year to mark the end of the United Nations 'Women's Decade', will be discussed during the meeting. The meeting will be presided over by Mrs. Haifa Al Bashir, president of the Jordanian Women's Federation.

In an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, AWF Secretary General Manal Yannis Abdul Razzaq said that the federation endeavours to relay a clear

and actual picture about Arab women to the public and to organise relations amongst women associations in the world with a view to strengthening ties between these federations.

Speaking about the subjects to be discussed at the meetings, Mrs. Abdul Razzaq said that participants would discuss working papers on establishing an Arab women's fund and the relation between the AWF and international women's federations.

IFAD president reviews agriculture projects, loans

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Muhammad Al Bashir Monday discussed with the visiting President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Abdul Mohsen Al Sudeiri and IFAD Middle East Director Sameer Al Asmar the existing agricultural relations between the ministry and the fund. Attending the meeting was the ministry's under-secretary, Dr. Salem Al Lawzi.

Mr. Sudeiri Monday also visited the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) and reviewed with ACC Director General Sami Al Sunna the granting of loans to farmers in the Jordan Valley area. Also discussed were the scope of

cooperation and ways of strengthening ties between the ACC and IFAD.

The Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) was also visited by Mr. Sudeiri where he discussed with JCO Director General Hassan Al Nabulsi the progress of work on the JO 3.7 million project for cooperative agricultural development in rain-fed areas which the JCO is carrying out in the country with financing from IFAD. Later Mr. Sudeiri, Mr. Nabulsi, Or. Sunna, Dr. Lawzi and Or. Asmar visited the cooperative agricultural development project in the rain-fed area and inspected the progress of work there.

News agencies urge more coverage of Arab politics

AMMAN (Petra) — The fourth symposium on dialogue and cooperation between Arab and European news agencies, which has concluded its meetings in Prague, called for directing more attention and more coverage to the political issues in the Arab World and for highlighting support for the Palestine question.

Speaking about the symposium, Mr. Jawad Maraga, director general of the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, who represented Jor-

dan in the meetings, said that participants expressed their satisfaction at the English bulletin transmitted by the Arab news agencies and recommended that participants get the maximum use of this bulletin.

Mr. Maraga added that the symposium stressed the importance of continuous cooperation between Arab and European news agencies in the field of training and exchange of expertise and information.

The symposium also recommended that a projected Arabic service, parallel to the new service currently in operation, be established with special concentration on issues of peace, liberation and humanitarian issues in general.

Mr. Maraga earlier signed a cooperation and news exchange agreement between the Czechoslovakian News Agency and the Jordanian News Agency. The bilateral cooperation agreement was endorsed by the Cabinet Monday.

World Bank, IFI to discuss financing of foundry company

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Arab Engineering Industries Company (AEIC) is due to hold a meeting with a joint mission from the World Bank and the International Financing Institution (IFI) to discuss the foundry project in which engineering materials such as fittings, will be produced. AEIC Chairman of the Board Bassam Saket told the Jordan Times.

The agenda of the meeting will include discussions on the proper means of financing on the project, either by offering long-term credits or through participation in the equity. Mr. Saket said. He added that this mission represents coordination between the AEIC and the World Bank side by side with one of its financing institutions.

Speaking about the newly-established company, Mr. Saket said that it is a public share holding company registered in 1984 with a capital of JD 15 million and owned by the Pension Fund, the Arab Mining Company, the Baghdad-based Arab Industrial Investment Company, Arab Bank of Jordan, the Industrial Development Bank, the Housing Bank, the Social Security Corporation and several investors.

Mr. Saket, who is also director general of the Pension Fund, said that this project is the first of its kind in Jordan and that tenders have been sent to several countries. It is expected to take three years to establish the project, he added.

Item description

Prices in dinars

— German bedroom with mattresses ready in different colours	365
— Local bedroom 6-door wardrobes, stereo, radio, lighting and mirrors together with ready mounted mattresses of different colours	450
— Italian bedroom, six-door wardrobes with stereo, radio lighting and mattresses which come in different colours	450
— German bedroom, six-door wardrobes with stereo, radio, mattresses lighting mirrors installed -different colours	375
— Italian carved bedroom, six-door wardrobes with mattresses	550
— Italian carved bedroom, six-door wardrobes, stereo, radio, mattresses	600
— Set of armchairs (long couch + our smaller ones) different colours	165
— Set of armchairs (one long couch of three seats one with two seats and three smaller ones)	175
— Deluxe set of armchairs (one couch with three large seats + one with two seats + three smaller ones)	235
— Elegant set of armchairs (one big + two-seat chair + three separate seats)	265
— Turkish set of carved armchairs (one big with three seats + four individual seats (deluxe) + two individuals separate ones of normal size + set of three small drawing room marble-top coffee tables	850
— Italian buffet with radio-light	135
— Italian carved buffet (three pieces)	245
— German buffet with stereo, lighting, radio (different colours)	165
— German buffet with lighting (different colours)	145
— Italian buffet (three pieces)	185
— Italian dining room table with drawers	23
— Expandable dining room table	35
— Chrome-dining room-chair (upholstered)	4
— Upholstered dining room chair (wooden and can be folded)	5
— Deluxe dining room chrome chair	10
— Dining room carved wooden chair with high back	18.5
— Five-piece Italian chrome coffee-tables (glass-top)	35
— Set of beech-wood coffee tables (local four pieces)	37.5
— Set of chrome or wooden coffee tables (four pieces)	39
— Turkish set of carved wood coffee tables (glass top, four pieces)	129
— Italian carved wood coffee tables (wooden top four pieces)	85
— Two door wooden wardrobe	38
— Single bedstead with mattress (wooden)	24
— Two storey beech wood bed with mattress	68
— Local made Morris style set (wooden)	175
— Wall clock	4
— Bathroom cupboard with light	5
— Alladine heater	20
— Vacuum cleaner for carpet with shampoo (manual)	11
— Electrical carpet vacuum cleaner	38
— Sharp video with remote control	285
— Orion Video (Japanese) with remote control (wireless)	285
— 12 foot refrigerator	170
— 14-foot refrigerator	185
— Five-point gas range (Italian with one or two doors)	135
— Oggi washing machine	27.5
— 20-inch colour television set	175
— 20-inch colour television with remote control	190
— Double-cassette recorder-radio	44
— Stereo cassette recorder radio with separate loudspeakers	80
— Table electric fan	14
— Study desk with two drawers	33
— auxiliary office chair	29
— Office executive chair	39
— Secretary chair	16
— Three lamp chrome chandelier (silver or golden colour)	15
— Four lamp chrome chandelier (silver or golden colour)	20
— Five lamp chrome chandelier (silver or golden colour)	25
— Office leather chair (S-shaped)	11
— Leather armchair for office (S-shaped)	19
— Television table (two shelf wooden or chrome)	9
— Television table (chrome or wood (three shelf))	12
— Television table (chrome or wood (three shelf))	17
— Carved dining room set of furniture (local, 8-chair + buffet + table)	460
— Child bed (chrome)	11.5
— Child bed (wooden)	12.5
— Single bedroom (complete set)	118
— Double size woolen blanket	10
— Single size woolen blanket	7
— Wall to wall carpet (burlap-Belgian) price per metre)	1.950
— Carpet (3 x 4)	55
— Curtains (price per metre)	1.5
— Washing machine with wringer	110
— German kitchen of different colours	245
— Large size washing machine with drier	100

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Ajlouni opens epidemiology workshop, calls for endemic disease research

By Rama Salabbagh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Minister of Health Kamel Al Ajlouni opened at the University of Jordan Monday a workshop for teachers of Epidemiology. The workshop is organized by the university's Manpower Development Centre (MPDC) in cooperation with World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Ministry of Health.

Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali, president of the university, stressed the university's role in promoting the new medical method "which applies theory and practice". Dr. Majali pointed out the new concept of "A Medical Family", which is an inseparable triangle made up of doctors, nurses and patients. The method, he said, has reduced a lot of medical malpractices due to differences in basic medical values. This method has also equalised the importance of both the doctors and nurses in saving humanity, he said.

Dr. Qandil Shaker, director of MPDC Health at the university welcomed the participants, and thanked WHO for choosing the MPDC as a place for this valuable workshop. Dr. Shaker also thanked the Minister of Health for backing up the MPDC.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Dr. Shaker defined the purpose of this workshop as, "to discuss and coordinate programmes for the prevention of various epidemics". He said that such programmes aim at reaching practical methods in alleviating these problems through teaching and educating the concerned health professions including doctors,

medical students, physicians and nurses. Participants will visit many areas in the Kingdom such as the Jordan Valley, and the King Talal Dam area, which are believed to be sources of some epidemics, added Dr. Shaker.

Personnel shortage
Dr. Mohammad Al Aghbari, WHO Eastern Mediterranean Consultant for Epidemics, outlined the problems facing the development of effective epidemiological surveillance activities. "The somewhat restricted interest of medical graduates in this important field has resulted in an acute shortage of well-trained personnel at all levels in this vital area," he said.

Dr. Ajlouni, in his speech, stressed the need of adequate researchers and scientists to investigate the causes of epidemics in villages and towns, "epidemics are

attacking our society and economical sectors," he said. "I am glad to inform you that we have bypassed the traditional scientific method in our medical education," he added. The university has provided educational services for the new generation, suitable to their future work and the country's needs, Dr. Ajlouni added. The minister also said that only a month ago, the university in cooperation with the Ministry of Health endorsed an "extensive effort" to provide medical care in the governmental hospitals and institutions which he described as theory being applied through practice.

The workshop, which will end on Nov. 30, includes professors of epidemiology from East Mediterranean regions, Lebanon, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Jordan.



Minister of Health Kamel Al Ajlouni (second right) and University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali (second left) attend the opening of a workshop on epidemiology. (Petra photo)

Nixon urges Reagan to make use of opportunity

By Karen Elliott House

Early action advised

NEW YORK — Twelve years ago, another Republican president won a landslide second term and carefully laid plans to use his mandate to reshape the world of the 1970s. That man was Richard Nixon, and his plans, of course, were aborted by Watergate.

Now at 71, Mr. Nixon, greyer, slightly stooped and surrounded by pictures of his grandchildren, vicariously savours Ronald Reagan's opportunity to reshape the world of the 1980s. The years haven't dimmed his interest in world affairs, his grasp of their intricacies or his fascination with the possibilities of power. His mind is still very much on the presidency, and he is rooting for Mr. Reagan with an enthusiasm born of his own wasted opportunity.

Mr. Nixon has strong views on policy priorities and the tactics for achieving them. He is offering his thoughts to President Reagan in detail, but he also is willing to share some of them during a 90-minute conversation on foreign policy.

If Mr. Nixon once was a team captain disqualified from the Super Bowl, he now seems an old coach sending the Republican team signals from the sideline. In a nutshell his advice is this:

Move quickly. Change some players if you can. But also keep your focus on very few issues. Forget about forging consensus, just lead. Don't ignore the "Third World." Don't focus exclusively on arms control. And move on the Middle East no later than early 1985.

His most surprising bit of advice: acknowledge that the Russians have a role to play in the Middle East.

"The window of opportunity for a second-term president isn't nearly as large as for a first-term president," he says. "Once the new term starts, the struggle starts within his own party to succeed him. And Democrats begin vying with each other to be the harshest, most effective critic of the president. So, anything he wants to do must be undertaken early and pushed hard."

"In foreign policy, whether the Middle East, Soviet-American relations or any change in direction in Central America, the time to do it is right now," he says, slamming his right fist into his left palm for emphasis.

Mr. Reagan doesn't seem likely to follow the former president's foreign policy advice — at least based on Mr. Reagan's first term, his campaign rhetoric and his recent private indications that he'll stick with the same foreign policy team.

Regardless, Mr. Nixon hopes President Reagan won't waste his landslide victory as did other big winners in this century. For different reasons, Presidents Roosevelt, Eisenhower, Johnson and, of course, Nixon, all got bogged down by the middle of their second terms.

Although Mr. Nixon won't say so directly, he makes it clear that Mr. Reagan needs some new — and preferably younger — aides. "With an election mandate, there is a tendency not to change, to dance with the girl you bring," he says.

The only two Reagan aides he singles out for compliments — and those are hardly effusive — are Secretary of State George Shultz, whom he describes as "very bright

and very open-minded," and National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane, who, he says, is "worth listening to, more than just a paper shuffler."

"The big picture"

"If a president sees the big picture as Reagan does — and that's what makes him a good leader — he deserves the best help. If he doesn't have it, he will fail," Mr. Nixon says. "He's an architect who needs damn good bricklayers."

As Mr. Nixon sees it, President Reagan has almost limitless latitude to chart a new course. "Mr. Reagan owes his victory to no one and to everyone. He is free to chart his own course without being pushed by the left or the right. And Mr. Reagan's voice has never had more resonance with the rest of the world than right now, he adds.

To use this freedom and clout wisely, President Reagan must focus on only a few issues, Mr. Nixon says. "You have to use a rifle, not a shotgun." The major issues ought to be the Middle East and Soviet-American relations.

Surprisingly, Mr. Nixon, who like other presidents, worked to keep the Soviets out of the Middle East, now proposes that the U.S. acknowledge Moscow's role there and sit down and talk about it.

"I don't want the Russians dominating the area," he says, "but I think the Soviet Union should play a role in the Middle East. After all, the Russians are there. We must recognise that the major destabilising and dangerous factor in the Middle East isn't the Communist revolution but the Muslim-fundamentalist revolution."

Mr. Nixon's sense of urgency about the Mideast stems from a

belief that the risk of a superpower confrontation is greatest there. "The least likely threat of war is a Soviet SS-20 attack on Western Europe," he says. "But you've had five wars in the Middle East and at the present time, it is the best candidate for another one."

In addition, Mr. Nixon believes that given the clout of American Jewish voters, sound Mideast policy is possible only if it is launched by early 1985. "The only time you have a window of opportunity to come up with anything responsible in the Middle East is non-election years," he says.

"In 1986, there's no way you can do anything in the Middle East that won't be tilted too far in the direction of Israel."

He suggests that President Reagan revive his 1981 initiative calling for Jordanian-Israeli negotiations aimed at creating a Palestinian self-government on the West Bank and Gaza in "association" with Jordan. First Israel and then Jordan declined to join such talks.

But several things have changed since then and Mr. Nixon contends that chances for progress are better. "The table is set for a new initiative because responsible Israeli leaders know they need some resolution," he says. Egypt's return to leadership in the Arab World, particularly its new ties with Jordan, is "good news," he says.

On Soviet-American relations, Mr. Nixon's advice is for a slow, steady approach. Instead of focusing solely on a big arms control breakthrough, the president should initiate political talks on a range of issues, particularly "Third World" trouble spots.

In Mr. Nixon's view, there are solid geo-political reasons for

improving U.S.-Soviet relations. Progress on peripheral political issues not only reduces the risk of superpower clashes over some "Third World" hot spots but also may pave the way for progress on arms control.

Furthermore, better superpower relations reduce the chance that China, the Soviet Union's giant neighbour and nemesis, will try to exact too high a price from the U.S. for its cooperation against the Soviets. (Mr. Nixon, architect of the opening to China, ridicules those who see that relationship as more than a pragmatic marriage of convenience. A "love affair" with the Chinese is an "illusion" that would be laughable if it weren't so naive, he says.)

"You have to look at Soviet-American relations in the broader context of our interests in the Middle East, the Far East, Latin America and Africa. It is exacerbation of those political differences rather than an arms race that leads to war."

"There is too much of a tendency to focus on arms control, to say if we have arms control, we will have peace," he says. "If we have peace, we'll have arms control."

Mr. Nixon says he is confident that Mr. Reagan's tough anti-Soviet rhetoric hasn't scotched the president's chances for a better relationship with Moscow. "The Soviets are masters of tough rhetoric. They can turn around in midair — if Reagan is reasonable. They're not pushovers, but they know they have to deal with him."

Beyond political dialogue with the Soviets and a push for Mideast peace, Mr. Nixon also advocates a major Reagan initiative for the "Third World."

"I'm not talking about a sappy Brandt (former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt) transfer-of-wealth proposal but a sophisticated package of aid, trade and loans," he says.

Mr. Nixon explained that his idea isn't really a Marshall Plan for recovery of advanced economies but rather a start-up plan for nations that have never had industrial economies. What he proposes is a complex programme under which industrial nations, particularly Japan, would increase their financial aid and trade with the "Third World." In short, he suggests expanding the recovery programme, which was proposed earlier this year for Central America and the Caribbean by the Kissinger Committee, to the entire "Third World." That plan called for some \$8 billion in financial aid to the region over the next five years from international lending institutions and the U.S.

Because Japan spends far less on defence than the other industrial economies (0.9 per cent of gross national product compared with 7 per cent for the U.S.), Mr. Nixon contends the Japanese should spend far more on economic aid than the present 0.2 per cent of its GNP. "As the second-richest nation in the free world, Japan should pay for the free ride it is getting on the military front by a corresponding increase in its economic assistance to Third World countries," he says.

Mr. Nixon acknowledges his "Third World" proposal may not get far in this administration. "People think my Third World kick is a little flaky," he says. That's not a word one associates with the Richard Nixon of the '70s, but times change — The Wall Street Journal.

Time to reverse the tide

INTER-ARAB differences and disputes are the main features of modern Arab history. So long as these disputes persist, the door will remain wide open for more problems and more complications in the Arab region. Unless something is done to stop the slide, these problems will continue to be difficult to solve and all efforts for solving them will revolve in a vicious circle, because of the numerous obstacles, though some of these efforts are characterised by seriousness and good intentions.

Current Arab disunity shows that the Arabs have not yet learned from past experiences. These experiences prove beyond doubt that Arab differences and the lack of a unified strategy among Arabs have always been the direct cause of placing our problems in a whirlpool of "no solution," and have also brought about further complications that have surfaced on the Arab scene. These complications made us almost forget about our basic issue — that of the Palestinian people.

In the shadow of endemic tensions and divisions in the Arab World, Israel continues to occupy the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and stands as the major obstacle in the way of achieving a just peace in the Middle East. Also because of Arab differences, Iraq has been left to fight alone for four years in defence of the Arab Nation against Iranian expansionism and hegemony.

The differences have opened the door for superpower interference, offering the big powers the chance to establish bridge-heads in the region at the expense of its peoples. It is also because of persistent Arab differences that Algeria is at loggerheads with Morocco which in turn had to fight against the Polisario front over the Western Sahara; while Libya was left to fight against Tunisia and other Arab and African countries, and now the Palestinians.

Benefiting from Arab differences, Israel launched its invasion of Lebanon more than two years ago and occupied sizeable parts of that country. This invasion resulted in the massacres at Sabra and Shatila refugee camps and in the death of thousands of innocent Lebanese and Palestinians, and the eviction of Palestinian fighters from Beirut to be scattered around the Arab World.

Israel continues to establish settlements in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in an open attempt to impose a de facto situation on the inhabitants of the occupied territories, and the Arabs are still unaware of the danger inherent in this policy despite numerous warnings by those who are true to their nation and its destiny.

It is due to persistent Arab differences that all international peace efforts have faltered, as if we Arabs do not wish to see our problems solved and are quite satisfied to bury our heads in the sand.

For how much longer can we afford to ignore the bitter realities in our midst? How can a step like that which brings the PNC to session to solve inter-Palestinian disputes be opposed by our brethren in Syria and elsewhere? How can the movement that Jordan started to bring Egypt back into the Arab fold be labelled "treason" and "wrong"?

It is time not to dwell on our differences and perpetuate our conflicts. It is time that the genuine forces of Arab strength and fraternity took the initiative to reverse the tide.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Discouraging situation

IN HIS lecture at the Royal Command and Staff Academy Sunday, King Hussein was critical of the prevailing Arab situation and the weak Arab Nation in the face of Zionist colonial measures in Palestine. The King displayed dissatisfaction with some Arab states which try to impose hegemony on the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and those states which opt for endeavouring to ensure their own well-being rather than work towards achieving pan-Arab security. He made it clear that Zionist imperialism is threatening all Arabs, rich and poor, far away from Palestine or close to the occupied Arab lands, and urged that all Arabs work together to end the differences among them and build a strong nation.

The King was also critical of some Arab states which in their drive to develop themselves tend to ignore the development of the other Arab countries, out of a wrong belief that they will be safe and secure. His address to the academy's graduates was a diagnosis of the current Arab situation which he said is characterised by weakness, pointing to Arab failure to confront the Iranian and Zionist aggression on the Arab Nation.

The King's words reflected his pessimism over future prospects, but he was short of expressing total despair with the Arab Nation because he believed that Arab citizens still have the potential to make the required change.

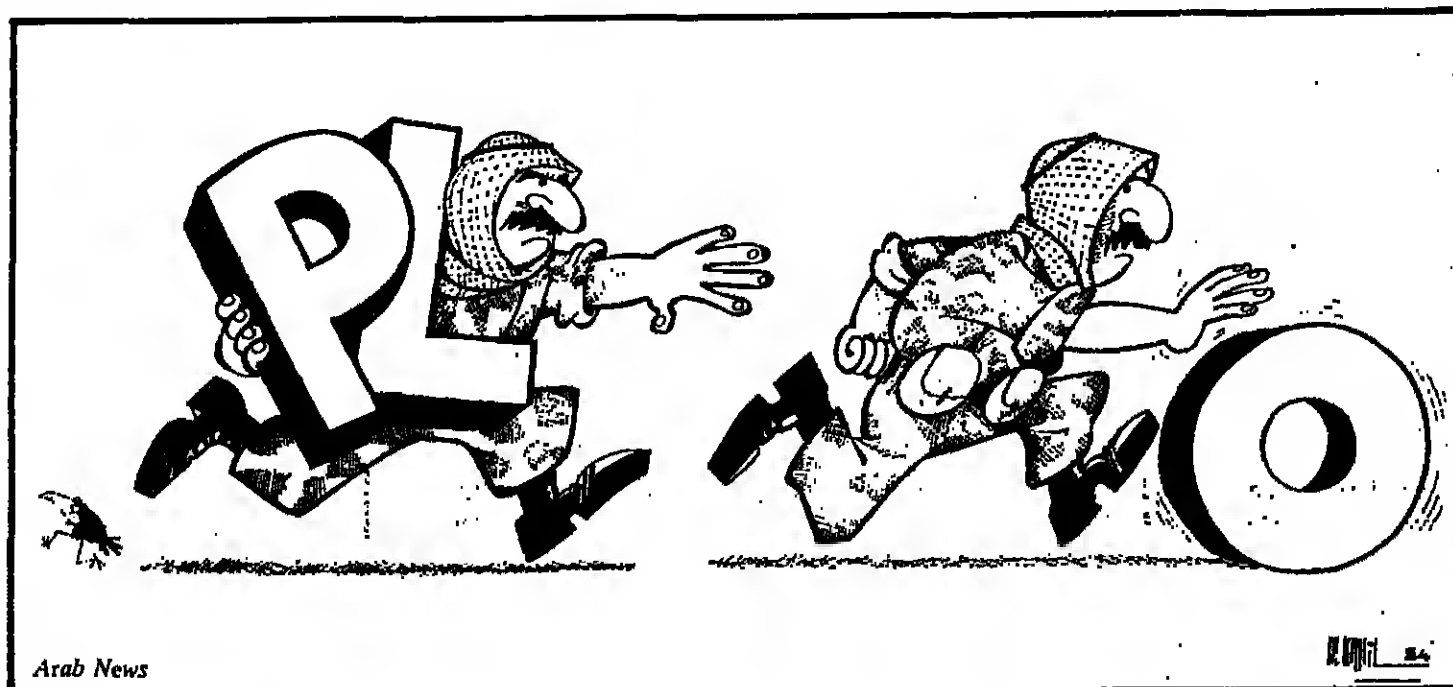
Al Dustour: For safeguarding Arab security

DIFFERENCES AMONG Arab states which existed a year ago still remain unresolved and they are largely responsible for Arab weakness and failure to confront the common challenges and threats. This point was made clear in a speech by King Hussein to the Royal Command and Staff Academy Sunday in which he said that the Arabs have so far failed to find a solution to the Iran-Iraq war, and still confront, with a weak stand, Israel's measures in the occupied Arab territories. He was critical of Arab states which support Iran against Iraq, thus perpetuating the Gulf conflict, and those which try to meddle in the affairs of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which tend to weaken the organisation and encourage Israel to pursue its plans by building colonies and evicting the Palestinians from their homeland.

The King called for pan-Arab development plans to be implemented and for linking overall development in the Arab World with comprehensive security because he said Arab states should be all united in the face of common dangers. The King's call on the Arabs to mobilise their efforts, reflects his keenness on safeguarding overall Arab security and maintaining the well-being of the whole Arab Nation.

Sawt Al Shaab: Outlining pan-Arab priorities

KING HUSSEIN'S address at the Royal Command and Staff Academy Sunday was a message directed to all Arabs to transcend their differences and to work for their common objectives. The King said that Jordan will be faithful to the principles of the Great Arab Revolt and will extend its hand for cooperation with all Arab states. He was, however, critical of Arab states which with their actions tend to keep the Arab Nation weak and unable to shoulder its responsibilities. He said meddling in the affairs of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and supporting Iran against Iraq are elements of weakness and destruction and tend to drive the nation to total collapse and defeat.



Young, old, beautiful contest Indian election

By Frances Kerry

Reuter

NEW DELHI — The young, the old and the beautiful are the main players in December's national elections in India, the world's largest democracy.

Until his mother's assassination 19 days ago, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, at 40 India's youngest-ever leader, was an unlikely main actor in the drama to unfold in the nation of 700 million people over the next 40 days.

He is a tall, burly man who dresses simply in the loose fitting white cotton pyjama style outfit favoured by Indian politicians. He speaks quietly but firmly.

Rajiv Gandhi's unlined open face is a marked contrast to the careworn wrinkles on the forehead of veteran politician Charan Singh, probably his main rival in the poll and leader of a newly-formed opposition party.

Charan Singh is a frail and sto-

oping 81-year-old whose years have not blunted his ambition for power.

A former prime minister, he is terse and witty, with a keen memory for the crucial political speeches of the early days of India's 1947 independence when Rajiv was only three years old.

Maneka Gandhi, 28-year-old widow of Rajiv's younger brother Sanjay, and leader of a small opposition party, is probably the most glamorous figure in the elections.

A former model, she has captured the minds of the media as India's only other prominent woman politician after her murdered mother-in-law.

She is contesting the same constituency as Rajiv and has attracted a following with firebrand oratory.

She is portrayed by followers as a defenceless and rejected daughter-in-law and by critics as tough rebel. Her strong features give her a determined look on the

campaign trail.

Madame Indira turned politician N.T. Rama Rao still looks as though he is on a film set — wearing the loose flowing saffron robes of a holy man.

Chief minister of Andhra Pradesh state in the south, Rama Rao emerged as Indira Gandhi's Achilles heel when he was dismissed last August and whipped up enough national support to lead to his reinstatement a month later.

He portrayed the drama as a triumph of good over evil to millions of supporters who best remember him for his film roles as a Hindu god.

Chandra Shekhar, the bearded and craggy 57-year-old leader of the Janata Party, which bears the name of the opposition coalition which defeated Indira Gandhi in 1977, was once one of her most enthusiastic supporters.

He won fame last year for a 4,000 kilometre walk round

India to meet the people in the populist style of the country's founding father, Mahatma Gandhi.

Atal Bihari Vajpayee, also 57, is the stocky leader of the right wing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Most Indians regard him as one of the outstanding successes of the Janata coalition as a foreign minister. He is a fine orator and recognised as a poet.

Former Prime Minister Morarji Desai, a leader of the opposition Janata Party, said in Bombay he welcomed the announcement of the election.

"My party will not compromise on principles with regard to seat adjustments with other opposition parties," he said.

Mr. Desai, 88, who led the Janata into office in 1977 in the only general election defeat suffered by the Gandhi family, said he would actively campaign for the opposition.

PNC to reiterate call for confederal ties

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Abdul Rahman disclosed that following the signing of an Algerian-South Yemeni mediated compromise accord between Fateh and four independent Palestinian factions last June Syria has asked Fateh to promise not to condemn the Damascus-backed factions in return for its Syrian approval to convene the PNC.

The four factions to the agreement were grouped in a "democratic alliance" including the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Palestine Liberation Front and the Palestinian Communist Party.

The Fateh official, however, refrained from disclosing any details of the new Executive Committee that will be elected by the PNC session in Amman or the number of seats that will be given to other key factions which have announced that they will not attend the session in Amman.

But he said that "new forces will enter the Executive Committee."

Both the DFLP and the PFLP

have one seat each in the Executive Committee, but according to well-informed sources Fateh has agreed during the 10-month reconciliation talks that precluded last June's agreement to increase the membership the numbers of representatives on the committee. However, it was not clear whether Fateh has changed its mind when the two factions refused to participate in the PNC.

The sources also said that the "new forces" that Mr. Abdul Rahman referred to are the Palestine Liberation Front and the Palestinian Communist Party. During the press conference Mr. Abdul Rahman also refuted accusations floated by a Syrian media campaign that by convening the PNC in Amman Fateh has dropped armed struggle and is succumbing to "capitulatory settlements" of the Palestinian problem.

He disclosed that the PNC will endorse a "new military strategy because it believes that the current balance of power in the area is not in favour of achieving a peaceful settlement."

"Only armed struggle can cha-

nge the current balance of power in the Middle East," he said. "We do not believe that a political solution is possible to the Palestinian problem."

Asked when Mr. Arafat will be arriving in Amman to attend the PNC session, Mr. Abdul Rahman said he did not know. However, sources said the PLO leader was expected in Amman in the next two days.

In Kuwait, meanwhile, a senior Fateh official also brushed aside the Syrian accusations by saying that the PLO would oppose any Middle East plan failing to guarantee sovereignty for Palestinians on their own soil.

"Nothing short of an independent and sovereign state of Palestine on Palestinian soil would be acceptable to the PLO," Salah Khalaf, number two in the Fateh group told the Kuwait Times.

He deplored Syrian efforts to remove Mr. Arafat as PLO chairman, and said any tampering with the leadership would wreck the liberation movement. This would harm the interests of all concerned, he added.

Stage set for PNC

(Continued from page 1)

convening the PNC in Amman, said that Fateh can rename representatives of these bodies without really violating the statute "because none of the other PLO factions have questioned such replacements in previous PNC sessions."

The Jordan Times has learnt that Fateh is determined to name new representatives in the PNC of the popular organisations regardless of the objections that it might encounter from other factions.

The strongest card Fateh is that of the PLO Higher Military Council whose members are appointed by PLO Chairman, Yasser Arafat and are automatically considered PNC members. Moreover, Mr. Arafat is empowered to appoint the number he likes and thus he can use the Military Council to compensate for any shortage to achieve the quorum if need be.

Economists see steady growth for Oman, recommend loans

By Jonathan Wright

Reuter

MUSCAT — The prospect of the Sultanate of Oman being in the market for a large international loan this winter is arousing keen interest among bankers faced with a shrinking list of creditworthy countries to lend to.

Many have been calling Muscat banks to check on rumours of a new borrowing. "They're very keen to participate. That's a clear sign of their confidence in the Omani economy," said one banker who had received several such calls.

The area manager of a large foreign bank here told Reuters that Oman, on the southern tip of the Arabian Peninsula, had such a good credit rating it could get a large syndicated bank loan tomorrow at highly favourable interest rates.

For economists see good growth prospects for Oman over the rest of the decade as the government spends its oil revenues on projects ranging from urban flyovers to rural clinics.

These revenues, now running at about 1.1 billion riyals (\$3.2 billion) a year, have already transformed what was a backward, disease-ridden and divided country only 15 years ago into a prosperous, healthy and unified state.

Much of the credit for the nation's success is given to Sultan Qaboos Bin Said, the absolute ruler who ousted his cautious father exactly 14 years ago. The anniversary and the Sultan's 44th birthday are being celebrated this weekend.

Unlike many other oil producers, non-OPEC Oman has been able to ride out a trend towards lower oil prices by raising output. Customers are easy to find because their tankers do not have to enter the Iran-Iraq war zone in the Gulf.

A cautious policy towards borrowing abroad has helped. A \$300 million loan raised from commercial banks in June last year was the Sultanate's first ever borrowing — a \$150 million loan arranged four years earlier was never drawn on.

Banking sources said there were strong rumours that Oman wanted a loan of similar size to last year's, to help cover a budget deficit this year estimated at 204 million riyals (\$590 million) when the budget was drafted in 1983.

Some of the deficit will be covered by withdrawals from the state general reserve fund, into which 15 per cent of oil revenues is paid.

The cost of servicing Oman's external public debt was last reported at only just over three per cent of the value of exports. As a result, development plans drawn up on the assumption that crude oil prices would be around \$40 a barrel have hardly suffered. The current Organisation of Pet-

roleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) benchmark price is \$29. Estimates of Oman's oil reserves have risen steadily as new finds have been made, and improvements to the country's pipeline system will bring pumping capacity to 650,000 barrels per day (bpd) by mid-1985, about two years ahead of schedule.

Official sources say oil production in Oman averaged 414,000 bpd in the third quarter of 1984, a record high.

A third five-year plan now on the drawing board is expected to be as ambitious as the last two. "It seems it will be more of the same — the Omanis still have plenty left to do," a Western economist told Reuters.

"The only thing that could upset their plans is another sudden fall in oil prices, and that seems unlikely. Otherwise business confidence is unassailable," he added.

Among schemes coming up are a port expansion expected to cost \$300 million, a sewer system for the southern town of Salalah and a string of smaller contracts for dams, roads, schools, hospitals and telephone systems.

Competition for contracts is keen, with firms from Britain, Cyprus, Lebanon and West Germany winning the biggest share, often in partnership with powerful local merchant families.

"It's a much sought after market. Omani partners are good and reliable and the government pays its bills on time," a senior diplomat said.

But not all the cash will go into construction schemes which only generate indirect income. Sultan Qaboos Bin Said declared in a recent magazine interview that the emphasis in coming years would be on diversifying away from dependence on oil.

"The Omanis are making a tremendous effort in this direction," the Western diplomat said, citing as examples two new cement factories, a copper plant near the northern town of Sohar and a range of light "import-substitution" industries.

Oman also plans to exploit its relatively abundant water resources, arable land and rich fishing grounds. Over 80 per cent of the workforce is still engaged in farming or fishing.

The government is restoring ancient underground irrigation channels which bring water to fields from aquifers deep in the mountains and building dams to recharge the aquifers by trapping rainwater, which previously drained into the sea.

In villages in the rugged interior, many accessible only by camel or four-wheel drive vehicle just a few years ago government-sponsored farmers read: "Agriculture is a pet which does not run on oil."

Britain sells itself with little effort

At Spring wobbles, British tourists look at the influx of North Americans to Britain and threaten to continue unabated, and consider the headwinds arising from this tourist boom.

LONDON — Ian Bell, the most British of British tourists, switched his car from a small, used-to-be-top gear, and rose to greet another visitor. "Hello, John," he beamed, having read the newspaper's "Japan" badge. "How can I help you today?"

How Ian could help John, and Laurie and Mike and the dozens of other Americans and Canadian tour operators and travel agents that he had been seeing during the course of the week, is by getting hotel rooms in the U.K. for them over the summer. Ian Bell is marketing director of Inter-Hotel, one of Britain's biggest hotel marketing companies. He has his own property in Dyfed, Wales.

Mr. Bell and around 30 of his colleagues in the travel business, selling everything from car hire to coach tours, are in London for the London Transport bus passes, were in North America recently, giving out the sales talk and handing over orders for things like their colleagues who sell chemicals or fashion.

But these days life is a little easier than once it was. British holidays are somewhat like Wedgwood china and Jaguar cars, things that everyone on the Western side of the Atlantic seems to want these days.

Britain's tourism business, which is just entering the closing stages of what could be a £5 billion (\$6.4 billion) year, is steeling itself for what promises, or threatens, to be a further substantial rise in demand for hotel rooms and other holiday facilities from foreigners. This year around 14 million overseas visitors will have come to Britain, most of them holiday makers attracted by what are perceived as bargain basement prices for a destination which is unrivalled in the world. "When they get there they just can't believe it," one U.S. agent said. "There is just so much to do and see ... and buy."

Recently the British Tourist Authority's new chairman, Duncan Bluck, was telling Tory MPs that the U.K. is on target for receiving 18 million visitors in 1988, producing a revenue of £7.5 billion. Bluck claimed that this would be one more factor making tourism the 'unchallenged biggest industry in the U.K.'

Participants in the sales tour to Washington and Toronto assembled each day for 7.30 am briefing, breakfast, and kept pre-arranged appointments with potential buyers every twenty minutes throughout the day, with lunch and dinner being part of the sales pitch too.

For the pleasure of this exercise each of the participants — who came from such giant chains as Trusthouse Forte and Consort Hotels, coach operators like Swindons and Frames, and from organisations such as the Automobile Association and the Birmingham Convention and Visitor Bureau — paid £600 to the BTA which organised the five-day trip, and that did not include the air fares. Inter-Hotel's Bell reckons that the cost of the total trip to his organisation is around £2,000.

There is no question but that it is much easier to get this money back in the form of business than it might have been even a couple of years ago. U.S. and Canadian agents were distressingly uniform in their praise of the U.K. as a tourist destination. "Don't ask me

about the negative," said Ingola Hodges of Transair Travel, Washington. "There are no any."

Well, perhaps that is a bit too flattering. Others complained about things that cannot be changed — like the fact that North Americans arrive in the U.K. at the crack of dawn and cannot get into their hotel rooms until after mid-day — to things that could, like the grubbiness of London's streets.

"People here live in one of the cleanest cities in the world," says Ian Richards, the BTA's man in Canada talking of Toronto. "They can get a shock when they see London." In an unguarded moment one American said that London's dirt was "What you would expect of a crumbling city."

Crumbling or not, so many North Americans want to see it that they are hitting problems in getting rooms. Hoteliers are still eager to pick up individual bookings but are less than enthusiastic about groups. "They come to us and ask for rooms over the summer, but we have to say no," says Rank Hotels' Dao Clayton Jones.

One U.S. agent groaned about his problems in finding 30 rooms in London during next summer's season. He was gradually getting the message that he could scatter his customers in various four star properties around the capital, but getting them all into one place was likely to be an insurmountable task.

The problems for London start in the early summer when the American Bar Association meets in the British capital. Best bets at the moment are that approaching 30,000 U.S. lawyers and their families will descend on London in late June and early July. "When we took the booking in 1980 it seemed like a good idea," say the hoteliers, "now we are cursing it."

Already it seems that stories on television and in local newspapers about London being overcrowded with tourists are provoking questions in travel agencies. "They don't want to go somewhere where they are going to meet the people from down the block," say local agents.

In U.S. terms the U.K. is bargain basement country these days. British Airways, which has been a major sponsor of events during this sales tour and which is switching considerable sales effort into filling its Trans-Atlantic seats with American and Canadian bottoms as the pound wobbles, has such offers as a five-night tour of Britain, with all hotels prebooked and an unlimited mileage hire car for \$179, plus the air fare.

Some of the tours being offered to North Americans appear dauntingly hectic. Day two of the "Glorious South" tour (seven days half board \$555 in peak season) with Insight Tours offers: "First to Beaulieu Abbey, the stately home of Lord Montagu, once a Cistercian Abbey. We explore his lordship's world-famous motor museum before heading northwards to Salisbury, where we see the towering 13th century cathedral. On to the mysterious Stonehenge's moonoliths, one of England's most remarkable landmarks, over 4,000 years old."

Anyone selling a trip that rushed deserves appointments with American travel agents every 20 minutes for five days. — Financial Times news feature.

Israel wants all the water

By Leslie C. Schmida

IN STARTLING testimony at the United Nations Security Council meeting on Aug. 29, 1984, Lebanese representative Rashid Fakhoury presented evidence indicating that Israel may be well on its way to diverting Lebanese waters from the Litani, Hasbani and Wazzani rivers. Citing information made available by the Lebanese Ministry of the Interior, Mr. Fakhoury reported that the engineering branch of the Israeli Ministry of Defence spent the latter half of Aug. 1984 digging a three-kilometre-long tunnel from Deir Mimas on the Litani to Kfar Kila close to the Israeli border — a tunnel large enough to accommodate the total flow of the Litani.

At the same time, the "Israeli Defence Forces" have begun to fence off a number of public and private properties along the Wazzani River and have prohibited fishing in the river and other civilian activity; Marjayoun area farmers have complained to some recent American visitors that they have been forbidden by the Israelis from digging any new wells. Some lands along the Hasbani have also been fenced off to the Lebanese, and on Aug. 14, the Israeli newspaper Ha'aretz reported that Tahal, the Israeli water planning authority, had devised a means for diverting Hasbani water to Israel via the defunct Tapline oil pipeline which once transported oil from Saudi Arabia to Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. After Israeli forces occupied Syria's Golan Heights in 1967 all but the Saudi-Jordanian leg of the pipeline ceased to function.

That year may well have signalled the beginning of concerted Israeli efforts to acquire control

over southern Lebanon's water resources. Many considered Israeli capture of the Golan Heights a "stepping stone" to the Litani, a river for which Israel has continuously evoked historical claims. Privately, Israeli sources have argued that a minimum of 400 million cubic metres (mcm) of Litani waters could be diverted into Israel, or up to 800 mcm — almost the river's total flow — if the dam at Lebanon's Lake Karaoun could be destroyed or controlled by the Israelis. A variety of diversion routes have been studied over the years; the basic diversion scheme, completed some years ago, consists of a series of channels, aqueducts, siphons and tunnels which would carry Litani waters from southern Lebanon into Israel for distribution via the National Water Carrier.

Since the 1978 Litani Operation, Israel has come increasingly closer to controlling the river. Shortly after the Israeli army entered Lebanon in 1978, a U.S. military observer claims to have witnessed Israeli soldiers burying pipes deep in the ground near Marjayoun. While aerial photographs have failed to locate the site, speculation continues as to the possible function of these pipes. Most likely, they are being used to siphon underground water from an aquifer fed by seepage from the Litani and Hasbani rivers and by underground streams from Mt. Hermon. Any increase in overall Israeli water supply cannot be verified, however, for Israel has not published full water or cultivation figures since 1978.

Prior to the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982, Yuval Ne'eman, Israeli minister of science and development, stated that the time had come for water-sharing

and other joint projects with South Lebanon. After the invasion, Gen. Sharon reportedly returned from Lebanon and informed Ne'eman that he had seen the Litani and that there wasn't enough water there worth taking. Israel then announced its willingness to buy any Litani water that Lebanon might wish to sell. Israeli representatives over raised the issue with the Lebanese, who in the talks preceding the May 17 agreement had been prepared to discuss the subject of water.

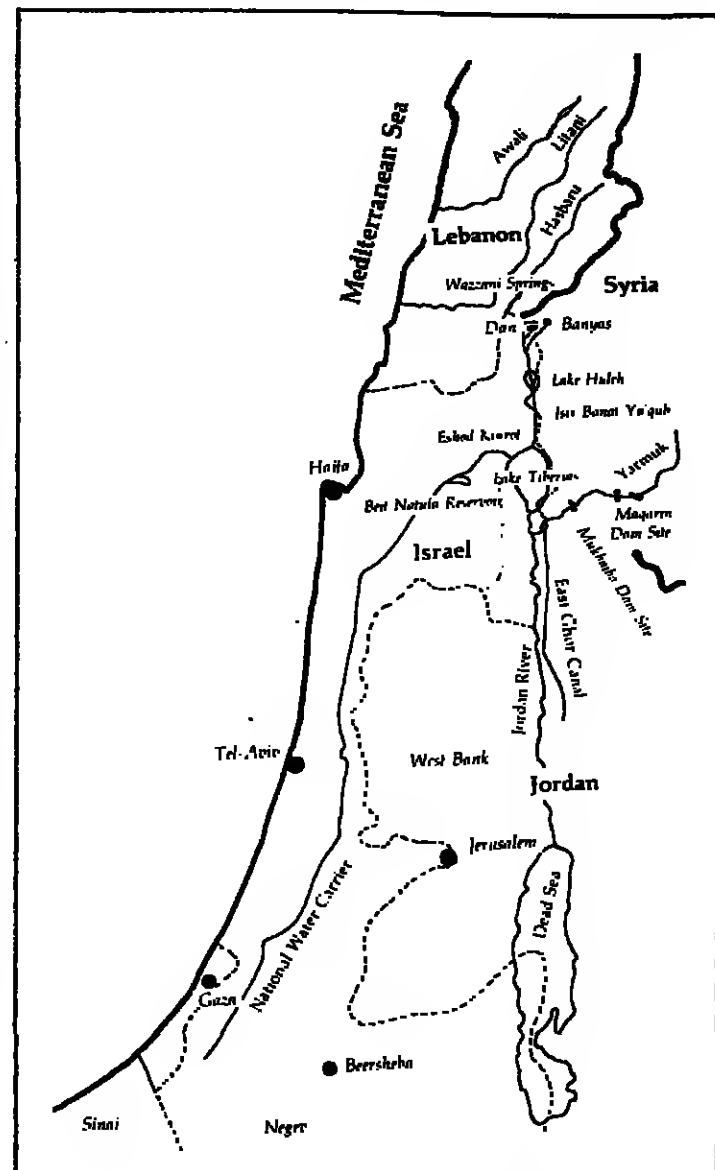
Although Israeli officials have reacted indignantly to insinuations that Israel may have designs on Lebanese waters, Israeli actions since 1982 suggest otherwise. Immediately upon entering southern Lebanon, the Israelis stationed two battalions along the northeastern shore of Lake Karaoun, seized all hydrographic charts and technical documents relating to the Litani, fortified the Kaoukaba area near both the Litani and Hasbani rivers, and began augmenting the flow of the Hasbani into Israel by laying surface pipes to catch runoff and other water from nearby and mountain springs. Israeli troops were also stationed near a small water diversion on the Awali River and at a power plant downstream at Jouo, giving Israel control over the main water supplies for Beirut and other coastal towns. Then, in January 1983, the Israelis conducted seismic soundings and engaged in construction activity near the Litani only three miles from the nearest water source in Israel. These activities have been confirmed by Israeli officials.

Actual evidence of a diversion itself has not yet been verified, possibly due to tight Israeli security

throughout Lebanon's South, especially east of the brood to the Litani from where they can control not only that river, but the Hasbani and Wazzani as well. Alternatively, the Israelis may not have had time to resolve the physical obstacles to a diversion, such as the need for additional storage capacity in Lake Tiberias and the sheer size of the pumping works that would be required. Nonetheless, few analysts doubt Israel's ultimate intent to utilise waters now within its reach in southern Lebanon.

This pessimistic assessment reflects a long history of Zionist/Israeli water policy which appears to be repeating itself. Far from flowing with milk and honey, Palestine is a harsh land for all who live there, and assured supplies of water — a scarce resource at best — are essential for the livelihood of all the land's peoples. Accordingly, water was a motivational factor in Zionist politics long before the Mandate period. Fully aware of the hydrological as well as the political consequences, Israeli leaders plunged the country into a massive immigration campaign which dangerously overexploited all of the water resources within its boundaries. Although territorial expansion brought additional quantities under Israeli control time after time, growing demands for water continue to exceed supply.

Israel now faces a serious water shortage, aggravated by its intensification of agriculture in the Negev and its settlement policy in both the West Bank and Israel itself. The country's water deficit will likely reach 450 mcm by 1985, and there are no obvious unexploited water resources within Israel itself to alleviate this shortage. Only



limited increases in water supply can be expected from such techniques as desalination, sewage reclamation and cloud seeding. How, then, does Israel expect to satisfy its projected water needs? A look at past experience may provide some insights into the future and provide a framework for assessing the latest developments in southern Lebanon — The Link, published in New York by Americans for Middle East Understanding, INC.

Spectre of second dust bowl haunts farmers, scientists

WASHINGTON — Harold Hogue has lived through one Dust Bowl. He isn't anxious to see another. But he's not confident that he won't.

In 1935, the blinding storms that uprooted the Great Plains destroyed his wheat crop at Dalt, Texas.

Mr. Hogue stuck it out. With hard work, he survived the Depression, and today he farms 20 verdant square miles of Texas grain. He drives a Coupe de Ville, winters in Palm Springs. His land is irrigated with water pumped from wells; natural gas powers the pumps. Still, he is apprehensive. "A lot of people say we'll never have another Dust Bowl," he says. "The hell we can't. With the price of natural gas, we could be back to dryland farming soon. A lot of farmers already are."

\$1 billion loss

Eroding cropland may cost the United States \$1 billion a year in polluted and sedimented rivers and lakes. But soils are complicated, and the extent and causes of erosion vary.

In 1977, the U.S. Soil Conservation Service (SCS) estimates, some three billion tons of soil were "lost" from cultivated fields, two-thirds from water and one-third from wind. One-fifth of the eroded cropland came from Texas.

The entry of American farmers into the export business, spurred by grain sales to the Soviet Union in 1972, set price soaring and led to a fivefold increase in the value

of U.S. farm exports by the end of the decade.

It also aggravated the erosion problem, as farmers plowed up an additional 60 million acres, much of it previously protected by grass.

Views on soil erosion depend on where one lives. Boyd Gibbons says. There are, he explains, upwards of 30,000 different soils in this country.

"Without soils there would be no grass, no cows, no bread, no us," he writes. "When we think that man runs the show on earth, we might recall that earth is mostly rock and life only a veneer on it, sustained largely by a sheet of soils derived from and covering the rock."

"Nature beats up the landscape," says Dick Arnold, director of the SCS soil survey division. "But man accelerates it. Soils are important to survival. Let's not beat them up if we don't have to."

Varied origins

Some soils are born from rotted bedrock, as is the Piedmont area of the eastern United States. Others evolve from rock moved in from elsewhere by wind, water, or glaciers.

"In many ways, soils are still a mystery," says Mr. Arnold. "We know some basic physics and chemistry, but we still have a lot to learn about how soils form."

Landscapes alternate between cycles of erosion and stability. Clay and organic particles can travel hundreds of miles in a big

storm.

"Most people have no idea how fast landscapes can change," says Ray Daniels, former SCS director of soil survey investigations. "In some cases man-made erosion may be faster, in others slower, than geologic erosion."

Crop yields have been increasing for years, despite erosion, and scientists think technology, particularly the tenfold increase in the use of commercial fertilizer since World War II, has masked erosion damage.

Mr. Gibbons notes that "soil conservation is still dictated more by economics than by good intentions." Farmers are deep-plowing less to save money — on fuel, for example — and increased mulch on their fields has reduced runoff and erosion.

In 1983, the federal government spent \$1 billion on erosion control and \$28 billion on subsidies to farmers, the subsidies up dramatically from \$7 billion two years earlier.

"We've always gone at erosion as a moral issue, but now we also want to appeal to the farmer in dollars and cents. We have to be careful not to paint a distorted picture. Soil erosion is not a today problem; it's a tomorrow problem, but you have to work on it today," says Peter Myers, head of the SCS.

Great potential erosion

Bill Fryrear, head of the U.S. Agriculture Department's Agricultural Research Service station

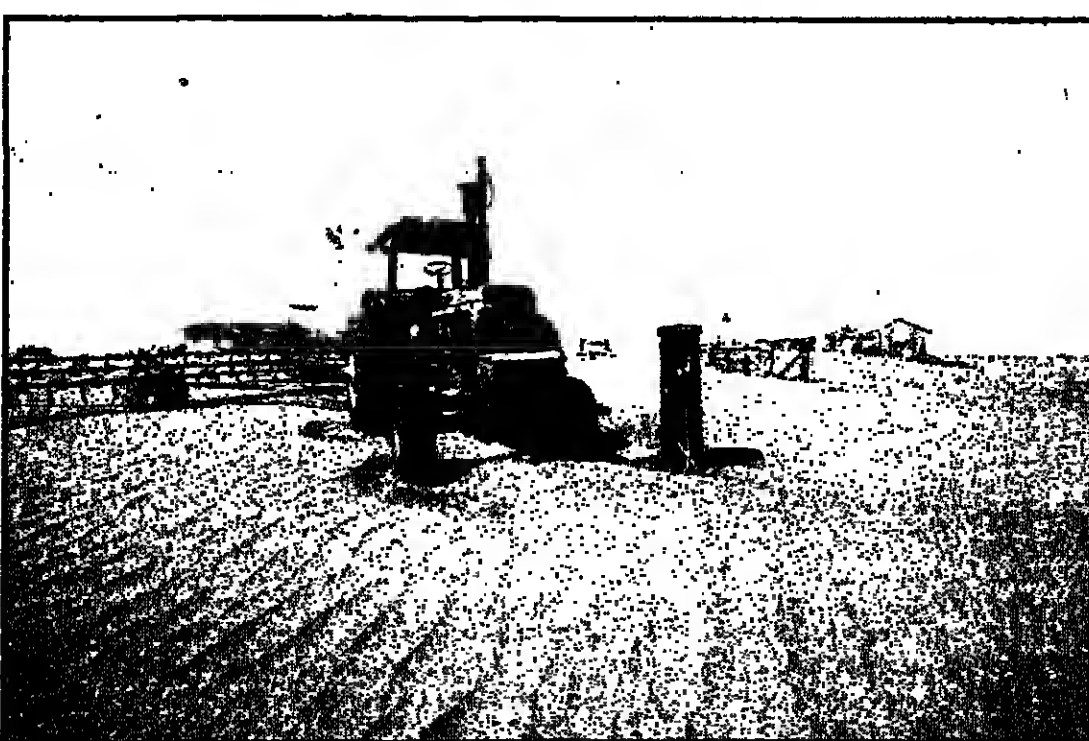
at Big Spring, Texas, thinks the potential for erosion is greater now than it was 50 years ago.

If it gets as dry as it was in the 1930s, he told Mr. Gibbons, "we're in for some real trouble. You're in country now that man in

his infinite wisdom did not improve upon."

Another big plow-up of the Middle West's erodible soils is inevitable if exports and prices soar again, Mr. Gibbons concludes. He writes: "Those men on

the plows churning up High Plains range are hoping for rain and a few bumper wheat crops to pay off a gamble in country where grass returns slowly and drought holds the cards" — National Geographic feature.



Desert-like appearance of a farm in the Texas Panhandle, a productive cotton-growing region, shows the ravages of a windstorm that lifted the silt and left the sand. Texas accounts for 17 per cent of the U.S. cropland erosion, and many Texans fear a return of

the 1930s Dust Bowl. Some think it has already started. In 1977, the Soil Conservation Service estimated, three billion tons of ploughed soil were lost to wind and water (National Geographic photo)

SCANDINAVIAN SHOWROOM

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Soviet Olympic chief criticises Seoul as site for 1988 Games

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Olympic committee chief Marat Gramov publicly criticised the choice of Seoul for the 1988 Olympic Games Monday for the first time and said Moscow considered it an inappropriate site.

At a meeting with a visiting group of Japanese politicians, Gramov said South Korea was the wrong kind of country for such an event, adding that Moscow had already received threats to harm Soviet athletes if they went there.

"Frankly speaking, we don't understand why the Olympic Games should be held in Seoul," he told the Japanese group, according to a television journalist who attended the meeting.

Asked if Moscow felt more inclined to attend the 1988 games than the 1984 event, Gramov replied: "It is difficult to say."

He added that South Korea had proposed direct talks on the subject with Moscow and he indicated

that the Soviet side was ready to agree.

South Korea earlier Monday urged North Korea to resume talks as soon as possible on forming joint teams for international sports events, including the 1988 Olympics. The talks were broken off by North Korea last May.

In his meeting with the Japanese delegation, Gramov drew direct parallels between the planned Seoul Games and the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles, which Moscow boycotted.

Asked if Moscow felt more inclined to attend the 1988 games than the 1984 event, Gramov replied: "It is difficult to say."

He said the Soviet Union generally felt that South Korea was

"not an appropriate place" for the Olympics because it had diplomatic relations with few countries and was a base for U.S. troops.

Recalling that Moscow stayed away from Los Angeles because of the alleged risk to its athletes, Gramov said the Soviet Olympic Committee had received a letter from the United States four days ago threatening Russian sportsmen who went to Seoul.

"All over the world terrorist groups are getting organised to exclude the Soviet Union from the Olympic Games," he added.

The Soviet press has carried a series of articles over the past two months suggesting the 1988 games venue should be changed.

Substitute for Monte Carlo planned

PARIS (R) — An event is being planned to replace the Monte Carlo Rally which has been excluded from next year's World Championship calendar, the chairman of the French sports daily l'Equipe said Monday.

Jacques Goddet told Monte Carlo Radio that l'Equipe had offered to organise a substitute rally in conjunction with the French Automobile Federation (FFSA) to save the prestigious event which runs partly through French territory and ends in Monaco.

The Monte Carlo Rally as well as the Monaco Formula One Grand Prix were ruled out of the 1985 World Championship calendar by the International Automobile Federation (FIA) last Thursday.

The exclusion of the rally followed a dispute between the Automobile Club of Monte Carlo

(ACM) and the FFSA, who last September decided to raise unprecedented levies on races organised by foreign federations on French ground.

In Monaco's case the sum demanded by the FFSA was one million francs (about \$110,000), which the ACM said it could not pay.

Last Wednesday the Monaco government, which acted as mediator between the ACM and the FFSA, abandoned the talks saying Jean-Marie Balestre, President of the International Motor Sport Federation (FISA), FIA's sporting arm, and of the FFSA, showed no sign of budging from his position.

Goddet said he had put forward his proposal to the Monaco authorities and to Balestre. He added all the parties concerned seemed to welcome it.

Observers noted that l'Equipe was a French organisation and that the FFSA levies were therefore not likely to apply to it.

Patrick Chapuis, editor of the automobile column in l'Equipe, told Reuters that nothing was settled yet and there could be new developments after a meeting next Tuesday between representatives of the French and Monaco governments and FISA.

He added the replacement event would not count for the World Championship and he did not know how many experienced teams would agree to take part.

The Monte Carlo Rally, which was due to start on January 26, used to open the championship. It dates back to 1911 and has been interrupted only once or twice, in unusual circumstances. The last interruption was in 1974, due to the petrol crisis.

Davis Cup final to be played on indoor clay court

STOCKHOLM (R) — The Davis Cup tennis final between Sweden and the United States will be played on a specially-constructed indoor clay court, the Swedish Tennis Association said Tuesday.

An association spokesman told Reuters the match would be played on a surface similar to that of the outdoor courts at Baastad where Sweden trounced Czechoslovakia 5-0 in their semifinal in September.

France built an indoor clay court for the 1982 final in Grenoble but failed to stop the Americans winning the tie 4-1.

Sweden's Davis Cup team cap-

tain Hans Olsson and his players have said they need a slow surface if they are to have any chance of beating an American side which is likely to include John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors, the world's number one and three ranked players.

The Swedish players have been testing the surface on a court built for them by a Swedish car manufacturer in Nykoping.

One court will be installed in the Scandinavium arena in Gothenburg for the Dec. 16 to 18 final and an identical practice court will be built in an adjacent exhibition hall.

EC to discuss players' movements

BRUSSELS (R) — Representatives of 13 national soccer associations will meet European Commission (EC) officials here next month to discuss moves to allow players to play where they like within the 10-nation community, officials said Monday.

The Brussels-based commission said the associations' limitations on the number of foreign players able to play for a team are against community laws guaranteeing free movement of labour.

The commission and the associations agreed in 1978 to gradually eliminate these "nationality clauses" but progress since has been slow, commission sources said.

They said the commission was under pressure from players' associations to "outlaw the clauses." All 13 community soccer associations and the governing body of European soccer (UEFA) will be represented at the meeting on December 4.

Khan qualifies for Swiss final

ZURICH (R) — World number one Jahangir Khan of Pakistan and 10th-ranked Ross Thorne of Australia have qualified for the finals of the Swiss Masters Open Squash Tournament here Monday.

Khan, 20, continued his domination of the tournament over the

weekend, easily beating Australia's Ricki Hill in the quarter-finals and New Zealand's Stuart Davenport in the semifinals.

In the quarter-finals, the world number two, Chris Dittmar, of Australia, was beaten by compatriot Dean Williams. But the effort exhausted Williams, in favour of spectators, leaving the way open for outsider Thorne to go through to the finals.

INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION CONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS (Sixth Education Project).

The Ministry of Education intends to call for tendering the construction of school buildings for the Sixth Education Project starting early 1985. This invitation calls for prequalification of contractors for the construction of (47) elementary and secondary schools of areas ranging between (3000-5200) square metres, as well as (53) school extensions averaging approximately (600) square metres each.

For purposes of prequalification of contractors for the above schools, the Government Tendering Directorate invites local classified contractors in the high classes and international contractors from the member countries of the World Bank for Development and Reconstruction, Switzerland and (Taiwan/China) to obtain prequalification forms from the projects directorate/ Ministry of Education according to the following conditions:

1. Local Building Contractors classified as general or first grade are allowed to submit forms for prequalification on condition that they provide all required information and they do not only make references to their classification documents in the Government Tendering Directorate.
2. International contractors are required to fill and submit the International forms (FIDIC) with complete documented information regarding their previous experience, their authorised and paid up capitals, and financial status in Jordanian Dinars.
3. Trends in awarding contracts after tendering:
 - a. Prequalification list for local contractors will show the maximum number of schools to be awarded to each individual contractors. The maximum number of schools to be awarded to local contractors will be according to tendering regulations at the time of awarding for both the new schools and the school extensions.
 - b. Prequalification list for international contractors will show the maximum number of schools to be awarded to each individual contractor. This number is expected to be (4-8) New schools depending on their qualifications.
4. Prequalification forms will be distributed from 17/11/1984 until 31/12/1984 from the Projects Directorate/Ministry of Education. Tel. 669181.
5. Prequalification documents will be submitted to the Govt. Tendering Directorate at the Ministry of Public Works at 12 noon on 12/1/1985.
6. The list of qualified contractors are expected to be announced during the first quarter 1985.

Chairman, Central Tendering Committee
Director, Government Tenders Directorate.

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VOICES, VOTES VIOLENCE (British miners drift back to the pits)
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This notice for specific goods and services follows the general procurement notice for this project which appeared in Development Forum Business Edition Number 150 dated 16th May, 1984.

The Jordanian Electric Power Co. Ltd. (JEPCo) invites bids for the supply of outdoor Unit Substations financed by the World Bank under Loan Agreement 2371 - JO. Bids are invited from the World Bank member countries Switzerland and Taiwan.

JEP 982/IBRD - 250 kVA, 500 kVA and 1000 kVA, 11/0.4 kV and 11-6.6/0.4 kV outdoor Unit Substations.

40 - 250 kVA units
110 - 500 kVA units
20 - 1000 kVA units

Tender documents will be available for inspection only at the JEPCo offices in Amman.


Tender Documents may be purchased from Kennedy and Donkin, Godalming at the address given below, from, Tuesday, 20th November, 1984. Application for documents must include a non-refundable fee of £40 for each set of tender documents with which to tender for the contract. Documents will only be available on receipt of this fee in full.

The Jordanian Electric Power Co. Ltd.,
P.O. Box 618 (Near 1st Circle)
Jebel Amman, AMMAN,
The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.
Telex No. 21507 JEPCO JO

Kennedy and Donkin,
Consulting Engineers,
Westbrook Mills,
GODALMING,
Surrey, GU7 2AZ
England.
Telex No. 856373 KDHO G

Tenders are to be submitted in English and must be completed in duplicate using the documents provided. The 'Master' and 'Copy' Tenders are to be returned to JEPCo in Amman.

All tenders are to be submitted by 1200 hours local time on Tuesday, 5th February, 1985. The 'Master' Tender will be opened thereafter in the offices of JEPCo on the closing date set for the receipt of tenders.

 MOVIES	<p>Cinema CONCORD Tel: 44092-44280</p> <p>TRAIL OF THE PINK PANTHER</p> <p>Tel: 677420 Performances 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>Cinema AL-HUSSEIN Tel: 22117</p> <p>GANG OF THUGS</p> <p>(Colour) Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8</p>	<p>Cinema RAINBOW Tel: 25155</p> <p>THE MAN WHO LOVED WOMEN</p> <p>(Colour) 3:30 6:00 8:30 10:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Cinema ZAHARAN Tel: 23171</p> <p>THE GUARD</p> <p>Colour Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8</p>	<p>Cinema OPERA</p> <p>THE FRENCH LIEUTENANTS WOMAN</p> <p>(Colour) Abdali, behind ALIA offices</p>	<p>Cinema PALESTINE Tel: 22117</p> <p>TORCH OF FREEDOM</p> <p>(Colour) NINGA, THE WHITE FIGHTER Performances: 12-3-7</p>	<p>Cinema RAGHADAN Tel: 22198</p> <p>THE BRIDGE</p> <p>(Colour) Performances: 12-3-8:30-8</p>
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Saudi fund to finance projects worth \$150m in Bangladesh

DHAKA (R) — The Saudi Fund for Development has agreed to finance a number of development projects in Bangladesh worth about \$150 million, Bangladesh principal finance secretary Mr. Mohammad Syeduzzaman said here.

He told reporters Sunday night on returning home after a Saudi-Bangladesh joint commission meeting in Riyadh that the projects included limestone and cement factories, irrigation and oil and gas exploration.

He said Bangladesh also sought the fund's help to build a bridge on the river Jamuna to link the capital to northern areas of the country.

The feasibility report and other technical details about the bridge would soon be sent to the fund for consideration, he added.

The fund approved \$30 million in November last year for the construction of a bridge across the Teesta river also in the north. Mr. Syeduzzaman said the Saudi government had assured him of "most sympathetic consideration" of Bangladesh's financial and other help.

Tunisian schemes to receive \$30 m Arab, Islamic credits

ABU DHABI (OPECNA) — The Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development has extended a \$20 million loan to Tunisia to help finance irrigation projects.

The schemes form part of an agricultural programme in Burg Al Tunis Matar and Sahlan costing \$42.5 million.

The loan, signed by Dr. Mohammad Al Imadi, director general of the fund, and Abdul Jalil Al Mubairi, Tunisian ambassador to Kuwait, carries six per cent annual interest, to be repaid in 18 years, including a five-year grace period.

It brings total Arab Fund aid to Tunisia to \$145.7 million.

Meanwhile, the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) is to extend a \$10 million loan to Tunisia for an ammonia-purchasing project.

The loan agreement was signed here Sunday by Mr. Ousmane Seck, IDB vice president, Mr. Salahuddin Siala, finance director of the Societe Arabe des Engrais Phosphates et Azotes (SAEPA), and Mr. Chakib Siala, deputy director general of the Tunisian Banking Company.

Kuwaiti private investors curb holdings in foreign currencies

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwaiti investors steadily reduced their holdings of foreign currencies in the third quarter of this year in favour of expanding deposits in local currency, the central bank says in its latest monthly monetary review.

It said funds were attracted back into Kuwaiti dinar bank deposits after local interest rates started to rise while interest rates on U.S. dollar accounts were stabilising.

The central bank also managed its exchange rate policy, under which it fixes a daily rate for the dinar against the dollar, in such a way as to "curb interest in foreign deposits and encourage a shift of investments back into local currency."

The central bank's review for September says the private sector's foreign currency deposits fell for the third month running.

They slipped to 770 million dinars (\$2.5 billion) from this year's peak of 827 million dinars (\$2.8 billion) in June.

At the same time private sight deposits rose for the first time since the end of 1983 to reach 637 million dinars (\$2.1 billion) while time deposits advanced to 2.19 billion dinars (\$7.24 billion).

International mining congress calls for modern technology

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Vice President Ramaswami Venkataraman, opening an international mining conference, (WMC) Monday urged the use of modern technology to harness the world's diminishing mineral resources.

More than 1,500 delegates from 40 countries are attending the five-day conference to discuss how to conserve dwindling supplies of such minerals as coal, copper, bauxites and iron ores.

Mr. Venkataraman said: "Adoption of modern techniques for the exploration and exploitation of mineral resources will help developing countries to progress faster."

"Minerals and ores provide the basic building blocks of civilisation," he added.

Conference sources said the meeting, the first in an Asian country since the WMC was founded 27 years ago, would consider transfer of modern technology to the Third World for mining and exploration of new areas.

Oslo forces oil firms to reconsider strategy

OSLO (R) — Foreign oil companies are assessing their operations on the Norwegian continental shelf following a government decision to hand over responsibility for the nation's biggest oil field to a Norwegian company.

U.S. oil giant Mobil suffered a blow to its Norwegian operations last week when the centre-right coalition government decided to change operators on the Statfjord field, awarding the prestigious North Sea job to the state-owned Statoil company.

None of the international companies currently exploring or producing oil and gas off the Norwegian coast have said they will pull out, but several told Reuters the government decision would force them to reexamine strategy in Norway.

The Conservative Party, the major coalition partner, favoured Mobil keeping control of Statfjord. But last Thursday it gave way to demands by the centre party, a minority partner, who threatened to bring about a damaging government defeat in a parliamentary vote if it failed to give Statfjord to Statoil.

Foreign firms are now worried they are being gradually squeezed out of oil activities in Norway. A Mobil spokesman said: "We don't know how yet, but obviously this decision is going to affect our long-term strategy in Norway."

The companies are also worried they will be further penalised if, as opinion polls predict, the opposition Labour Party is returned to power in general elections next autumn. Labour supports Statoil's control of Statfjord operations, due to take effect between January 1987 and January 1989.

A spokesman for Norske Shell A/S, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Royal Dutch Shell Group, told Reuters the company was planning to stay in Norway, but the Statfjord case was worrying.

Energy analysts here said several foreign oil companies were already showing signs of losing interest in Norwegian operations because of heavy taxation of drilling profits.

Phillips Petroleum and the Norwegian government are preparing for a supreme court battle over a taxation increase the company said was unlawful and other companies, Amoco and Arco, are reported to be hesitant over future activities.

Arco came into Norway like a dust storm off the desert a few years ago but now they don't seem to have their hearts in it," one American analyst told Reuters.

Differences in American and Norwegian temperaments have caused problems. "The Americans are loud and brash and want to get things done yesterday but the reserved Norwegians don't much appreciate that," the analysts added.

The sense of mistrust has grown because Norwegian governments felt they were being exploited by the foreign companies, while the oil companies argue Norway was willingly accepted huge investment in its offshore industry, the analysts said.

As well as Statoil, Norway now has two other oil companies, Norsk Hydro and Saga Petroleum, active in Norwegian waters. The three combine aggressive marketing techniques with their native status to ensure the lion's share of concessionary licences.

From 1965 to 1974, when the Norwegian shelf was in its infancy, foreign companies were responsible for running all oil wells, but since then they have been made operators on just 17 out of the 60 licensing blocks awarded, according to Norwegian petroleum directorate figures.

Warsaw announces withdrawal from ILO

WARSAW (R) — Poland formally announced Monday it was withdrawing from the International Labour Organisation (ILO) because the U.N. agency took note of a report condemning alleged abuses of trade union freedom by the Polish government.

The ILO, based in Geneva, said it regretted the decision but added that it "was taken over a question which is fundamental".

Poland's permanent representative to the Geneva-based agency, Mr. Stanislaw Turbanski, notified ILO Director General Francis Blanchard of the decision in a letter delivered two days ago, the official Polish news agency PAP said.

PAP quoted the letter as saying: "The government of the Polish People's Republic cannot remain indifferent any longer in the face of a tendentious and hostile attitude towards Poland on the part of certain quarters with the ILO and some of its international civil servants."

The report, published last June after a year-long inquiry by a three-man ILO team, found that

the Polish government had infringed workers' rights by suppressing the independent labour movement Solidarity under martial law in December 1981.

The report described martial law as "a step of exceptional gravity that had no common measure with occasional excesses that might have occurred in the trade union movement" during Solidarity's 15-month legal era before martial law.

Mr. Blanchard said in a statement Poland's decision was to be regretted but added: "Universal membership has to mean a universal commitment to the constitution and to the procedures as well as the principles contained in it."

Under ILO rules, Poland is required to remain a member during a two-year notice period after notifying withdrawal.

Soviet bloc countries had tried to dissuade the ILO's executive board from acting on the report at its annual meeting last week, but the board decided to take note of it by a vote of 31 to 10 with 12 abstentions.

African famine mars FAO meeting

ROME (R) — The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Monday began a governing council meeting under the shadow of the "stark human tragedy" of famine in Africa, FAO Director General Edouard Saouma said.

Africa continues to be the U.N. agency's first priority, he told delegates of 49 countries attending the two-week meeting at its Rome headquarters.

He spoke of the "stark human tragedy" in Ethiopia and other parts of Africa — the appalling pictures of emaciated children, the victims of war, the columns of refugees trailing across a dusty landscape into urban squalor.

"The prospect of more hunger and hardship in Africa is truly daunting," Mr. Saouma said. But he warned that one or two disastrous harvests in other regions of the world could cause an even worse calamity among the urban masses and poor farmers.

Mr. Saouma described the need for more food production in all developing regions, and the achievement of food security, as long-term priorities which would remain so for the rest of the delegates' lives.

FAO's latest forecast puts world cereal stocks at the end of 1984/85 harvest at 291 million tonnes, 10 per cent up on the previous year.

This would represent 1.8 per cent of expected world consumption in the following 12 months, an adequate level for world food security, according to FAO.

"The paradox is that we have famine in the midst of plenty," a senior FAO executive told Reuters. "The carryover stocks are a slightly academic figure, since national crop years are different, but they give some idea of the world's ability to deal with a future emergency."

Mr. Saouma said FAO's food aid committee would study ways of reacting more quickly to famine, such as borrowing food stocks from developing countries with a surplus.

He said recent developments had fortified his belief that world food security was of paramount importance. (Ethiopia resettles drought victims p.8)

Israel faces unemployment crisis

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — The Israeli cabinet was Sunday told that 15,000 state employees will have to be dismissed if the government's battle against 800 per cent a year inflation is to succeed, a government spokesman said.

Finance Minister Yitzhak Mordechai told reporters he gave cabinet colleagues a bleak option — either cut staff or severely prune all services.

He said the cabinet decided in principle to slash a further \$550 million from its budget over the next 12 months, mostly in defence spending.

The multi-party coalition has already cut \$250 million from the \$9 billion budget available after debt repayments.

The finance ministry recommended that 15,000 state employees, including 4,000 teachers and at least 2,000 army regulars, be dismissed, the spokesman said.

Labour and Welfare Minister Moshe Katzav predicted unemployment would rise by 50 per cent within a year and reach a level not seen in Israel since the late 1960s. It now stands at 90,000, or 5.9 per cent of the workforce.

Mr. Mordechai said the government would institute retraining schemes and provide welfare for the very poor.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices recovered from early lows, mainly responding to bargain hunting in a thin market. News Barclays Bank cut its base rate by a smaller than expected ¼ point to 9½ per cent helped the rally slightly, but dealers said a base rate cut ahead of the British Telecom flotation had been largely discounted by the market.

At 1500 Monday the F.T. 30 fell 3.2 to 916.8 and at 1530 the FTSE 100 index was off 6.8 at 1166.7 after 1162.9 at 1034.

Government bonds fell ¼ point, unaffected by the Barclays move and news the Bank of England cut its two week money dealing rates by up to ¼ point. North Americans were steady.

Several leading issues moved above Friday's closing levels including Lucas up 6p at 266 on weekend press comment. Tate and Lyle 12p firmer on renewed bid speculation and active business in its options while Associated Dairies moved up 4p to 164.

Other leaders selectively moved above early lows as in ICI off 4p at 558 after 556 and Tl Group down 2p at 234 after 230. Trading was quiet as institutions prepare for the impending B.T. float. Metal Box fell 10p to 35 ahead of the interim Tuesday.

Banks were dull with Barclays off 10p at 509 while many insurance issues moved above their lows. In mostly lower oils B.P. added 2p to 503 but Shell was off 10p at 643.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.2535/45	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3156/59	Canadian dollars
	2.9735/45	West German marks
	3.3530/40	Dutch guilders
	2.4535/45	Swiss francs
	60.00/3	Belgian francs
	9.1250/1300	French francs
	1847.0/1848.0	Italian lire
	242.92/243.02	Japanese yen
	8.5450/5550	Swedish crowns
	8.6550/6650	Norwegian crowns
	10.7350/7450	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	342.75/343.25	U.S. dollars

Oman boasts 5.1% growth

MUSCAT (R) — The Omani economy grew 5.1 per cent in 1983 and is likely to expand at a similar or higher rate this year, the central bank said in a report.

The report said gross domestic product last year was 2.74 billion riyals (\$7.93 billion) compared with 2.61 billion riyals (\$7.54 billion) in 1982. With crude oil production and government expenditure both rising, the growth in the economy for 1984 is expected to reach the same level or probably surpass that of 1983, it added.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, NOV. 20, 1984

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Now you have an unusually good day and evening to make whatever arrangements are of interest to you with other persons. For a spirit of cooperation will permeate the atmosphere. ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Sit down with a partner and decide what is best to do in the future, and then put such plans into quick action.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Get right at your work and handle it precisely so that you can get the desired benefits from it.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A fine day to make arrangements for the days ahead that can relieve you of tensions and lift your spirits.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Plan how to make those changes at home that will make it a more charming place to be in, but first get OK of kin.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) A better understanding with those you contact in the business world is possible. Don't be so opinionated and try to listen to others.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get your property improved and impress others with your precise ideas and modus operandi. You will get excellent ideas in the future.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You are charming and magnetic now and should contact those who can assist you in gaining personal goals.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You can get into that research work you had not finished and come up with the right information now.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You want to be with as many friends as possible and have a wonderful time with them, so do just that.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A good day to get in touch with persons who can give you backing you need. Bring your talents to the attention of higher-ups.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get out of that rut you are in and take a little trip that can bring in special benefits at this time.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Try to get connected with a progressive person in business who can help to make your future much brighter.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be very much attached to home and family and should have many playmates around early in life in order to learn to socialize more. One who should go to modern schools where computers and other technological studies are given since your progeny is a precisionist.

THE Daily Crossword by H. Karmil Jackson

ACROSS

- Configuration
- P.I. notices
- Went too
- fast
- Cambridge
- Stagger
- Beverage nut
- Lifeline
- Most dreadful
- "Magnum"
- the Fall
- Chin. people
- Joan Brox
- "Harry"
- Rio Grande city
- Smelter refuse
- Canal nation
- Honshu port
- Speaking publicly
- Public vehicle
- More potent
- Cylindrical and tapering
- Preside as
- Judge
- Rue
- Corat ring
- Rolls of money
- Great respect
- Havelland veranda
- Loose garment
- Orbit of a kind
- mez
- Fachal
- Feb. measure
- Thal or Arabian
- Dye chemical
- Centures year
- Office worker
- Trachery
- Dipped
- Winter weather
- Winter runner
- Pound, e.g.
- Famed lioness
- Shade
- Jimmy
- Despotic idl
- Sounded bells
- Shoe cord
- Ho loves Lat.
- Comic Kaplan
- Ritty
- Comic Johnson
- Honshu city
- "Kiss Me"
- Yoked beasts
- Sky-diver's sail
- Report danger
- Told
- Bending tool
- Part of 8 A
- Claw
- Palmer of golf
- 51 Zodiac division
- 52 "evil"
- Nora's dog
- 54 Report danger
- 55 Small case
- 57 Resorts
- 59 Shocking fish

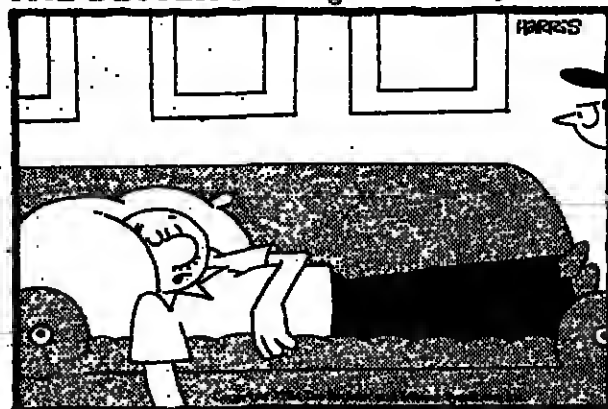
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Saturday's Puzzle Solved:

KAHN PIARIS KNEW
 OTTO AMIDE KASH
 SITOW SALEM OTTO
 UPTONERINTUITE
 LILIS BOIS
 POPPLAR BEHAG HIMS
 AARON SOUP RIT
 STANGONCERENBY
 SIET AUKS PABIE
 EIRHAN EIT
 SEITHEIFASHION
 DODO ORANT SPIAT
 IRON SIARTO LUNA
 GAGE SITIAL ESIAU

48 Claw
 50 Palmer of golf
 51 Zodiac division
 52 "evil"
 53 Nora's dog
 54 Report danger
 55 Small case
 57 Resorts
 59 Shocking fish

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"Don't bother me, I'm busy doing housework! I'm keeping dust from settling all over our nice clean sofa!"

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RYDYL

DONSY

NALET

BELNAG

WHAT HER IDEAL BECAME AFTER SHE MARRIED HIM.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: AN

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: MANGE SUAVE BEDECK PENURY
 Answer: What her appeal sprang from—HER "EYE CUE"

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



NATO says no change in policy towards Lemnos

BRUSSELS (R) — NATO's military command, reacting to Turkish press reports that NATO was ready to incorporate Greek forces on Lemnos into allied command, said Monday alliance policy towards the Greek Aegean island was unchanged.

"There has been no change at all in NATO policy on that matter," a spokesman for the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, Gen. Bernard Rogers, said. "The status of Lemnos is a problem between Greece and Turkey which only they can solve."

Weekend Turkish press reports alleged that Gen. Rogers was ready to accept a Greek plan to put 18 F-5 fighter planes and related ground units on Lemnos under allied command.

Turkey says the island must

remain demilitarised under the 1923 Treaty of Lausanne but Greece says that requirement lapsed under the 1936 Treaty of Montreux.

NATO sources said Ankara was objecting to the fact that Greece had for the first time declared the forces on Lemnos as NATO-dedicated in its annual defence planning questionnaire, a document submitted by member nations to NATO headquarters.

But the sources said this was a national document and did not

imply acceptance by the alliance of the position of those forces.

Secretly General Lord Carington reaffirmed NATO policy on Lemnos in remarks to allied parliamentarians last week, saying the status of the island was a bilateral issue between Greece and Turkey in which the alliance could not take sides.

Greece has boycotted all recent NATO exercises in the Aegean because of the exclusion of Lemnos, which Athens says favours the Turkish interpretation.

NATO officials fear the issue may again disrupt alliance business if Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu attends a NATO defence ministers' meeting here next month as planned.

Romania set to extend Warsaw Pact membership

BUCHAREST (R) — Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu made clear Monday his country, which has restricted military cooperation with its Soviet Bloc allies, would extend its membership of the Warsaw Pact when it comes up for renewal next year.

Speaking to the 13th Romanian Communist Party Congress, Mr. Ceausescu said Romania "will have to consider accepting the extension of the term of the treaty."

This followed because the Pact and NATO had not been able to reach an agreement simultaneously to disband the two alliances, he said.

Mr. Ceausescu, 66, who has steered his country along a path of

relative independence within the seven-member pact, suggested in his opening address that the party should approve the move during its five-day congress.

He said that even after the pact, signed originally in Warsaw in 1955, had been extended, Romania would "support all initiatives to create conditions for steady dismantling of the two military blocs."

He did not specify for how many years Romania would be prepared to extend its commitment to the treaty.

Western diplomats believed Romania may wish an extension of four or five years, while they said Moscow may be pressing for a longer term.

Thatcher, Fitzgerald start talks on Northern Ireland

LONDON (R) — Surrounded by tight security at her country retreat, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher began talks Monday with Irish leader Garret Fitzgerald on ending guerrilla violence in Northern Ireland.

The venue, switched at the last minute, was kept secret until the Irish prime minister arrived Sunday night at Mrs. Thatcher's official country residence, Chequers, in the Buckinghamshire countryside 50 kilometres west of London.

The outlawed Irish Republican Army (IRA) narrowly failed to assassinate Mrs. Thatcher and many members of her cabinet in a bomb attack on a hotel in the seaside resort of Brighton last month during her Conservative Party's annual conference.

Monday's meeting was originally set for Dublin and the switch prompted criticism of Mr. Fitzgerald by Irish opposition leader Charles Haughey, who said it showed lack of faith in Ireland's security forces.

British government sources said the talks would focus on ways of combating the guerrilla threat in the British-ruled province, where 2,400 people have died in political and guerrilla violence in the last

15 years.

The sources said the two sides would look at strengthening cooperation on security matters. The Guardian newspaper said one outcome could be the formation of an advisory security commission.

Irish sources said Mr. Fitzgerald calmed down his expectations and was not anticipating any major political initiative from Mrs. Thatcher, largely because she was preoccupied with the protracted miners' strike in Britain.

The talks are the first since publication last May of a Dublin-sponsored report proposing new political structures for the North, with a formal role for the Irish government, in an attempt to end the bloodshed.

While no major new initiatives are expected to emerge from this meeting, Dublin is hoping for some indication that Britain is aware of the alienation of the Catholic-minority in the North, and is prepared to do something about it.

The issue of security co-operation is also bound to arise. Bad feeling was caused in Dublin the week before last over a leak in Britain of discreet Irish moves towards catching and extraditing suspected guerrillas.

2,200 U.K. miners return to work

LONDON (R) — Britain's state coal firm Monday reported the heaviest return to work yet by miners, saying that almost one man in three was now defying the miners' union and abandoning the eight-month-old strike.

About 2,200 "new faces" were counted at the collieries Monday morning, pushing the number at work to 62,000 out of an official workforce total of 189,000, the National Coal Board said.

But strike leader Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), continued to challenge the figures, saying three-quarters of the workforce was still on strike.

"The coal board have been predicting a surge back to work in the return-to-work figures since March 1984. Of course it has not happened and what has taken place is a complete and utter disaster so far as the coal board is concerned," he said.

Most of Britain's miners went on strike last March over coal board plans to shed jobs.

Vietnamese seize parts of Kampuchean rebel base

BANGKOK (R) — Vietnamese troops seized parts of a Kampuchean guerrilla base near the Thai border, forcing thousands of civilians to flee on the second day of a big attack, Thai military officials said.

They said about 3,000 Vietnamese soldiers had moved into parts of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) camp at Nong Chan, a few kilometres from Thailand in Kampuchea's north Western Battambang province.

Thai Army Secretary Nareudol Dejpradit said about 1,000 Kampuchean civilians crossed into Thailand to escape the fighting.

The rest of Nong Chan's 21,000 civilians were heading north east towards two larger KPNLF camps. Thai officials said.

They said the Vietnamese began shelling the base with artillery and tanks before dawn Sunday.

Ethiopia resettles drought victims

ADDIS ABABA (R) — An ambitious scheme to resettle up to 2.5 million of Ethiopia's nine million drought victims began last week, state television reported Sunday night.

It showed pictures of groups of peasants at Makelle, in drought-stricken northern Tigray province, boarding a Soviet aircraft to be flown to more fertile areas.

Further south at Dessie, the regional capital of Wollo province, thousands of drought victims were

pictured boarding buses to be transported to their new homes.

Foreign donors have organised massive airlifts of food to Ethiopia where the failure of spring and autumn rains has threatened about nine million people with starvation, according to Dawit Wolde Giorgis, Ethiopia's top relief official.

Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam told a news conference on Saturday that the government planned to move around

2.5 million people from regions where drought has made their way of life impossible to more fertile western areas.

Areas to be resettled include Gojam and Illubabor provinces in western Ethiopia, where the land is fed by rivers.

The government has asked donor countries to provide housing and farm implements to enable the peasants to fend for themselves as soon as possible.

Chirac brings fresh blood into party

GRENOBLE (R) — Jacques Chirac has brought fresh blood into the Gaullist Party machine before elections in 1986 which he hopes will make him once again France's prime minister.

At the close of a two-day congress here Mr. Chirac named Jacques Toubon, 43, his closest political lieutenant for the past 15 years, as the new secretary-general of the RPR (Rassemblement Pour la République).

Mr. Toubon, often described as "Chirac's Chirac", is a dynamic political fighter in the style of his mentor, whom President Georges Pompidou once likened to a bulldozer.

Announcing the choice Sunday

to 50,000 wildly cheering party militants, Mr. Chirac, 51, described Mr. Toubon as a man "whose pugnacity is recognised by all."

Party sources said that by accepting the resignation of Bernard Pons, 58, as head of the party organisation, Mr. Chirac had bowed to those seeking a younger, more dynamic party image.

Mr. Chirac wrested control of the Gaullist movement in the 1970s from its traditional old guard, whose presence is now largely symbolic.

Party sources said Claude Labbe, RPR group leader in the National Assembly, was also likely to be urged to step aside in

favour of a younger man.

Mr. Chirac warned the Gaullist faithful that they should not take victory in the 1986 National Assembly poll for granted.

He warned that President Francois Mitterrand was likely to introduce some form of proportional representation which might deny any clear-cut victory to the opposition.

While the RPR, guardians of the Fifth Republic constitution bequeathed by Gen. de Gaulle, see proportional representation as heresy, it is favoured by former President Valery Giscard d'Estaing and much of the centre-right UDF.

Thousands protest at Spain's education policies

MADRID (R) — Spain's Socialist government Monday faced renewed calls for a compromise on education policy after hundreds of thousands of middle-class Spaniards joined the biggest opposition demonstration in its 23-month-old rule.

The march Sunday in central Madrid was called by Catholic groups linked to Spain's mostly church-owned private schools.

The groups accuse the government of applying a law tightening control over the schools, which are dependent on state subsidy, without waiting for a court ruling on its constitutionality.

Under the law, managers of church schools, attended by 22 per cent of Spanish children aged between six and 14, would be left in a minority on governing councils that also include representatives of teachers, parents and pupils.

Catholic Parents' Confederation President Carmen de Alvear, the main organiser of the march, said a million people had backed calls for a compromise on the law's implementation. Officials put attendance at 250,000.

Opposition parties backing the demonstration said it was a general protest against the government.

Rightist opposition leader Manuel Fraga, who marched behind the organisers, told Reuters: "This shows what ordinary citizens think about the Socialist government."

The education law, passed last March, was challenged by Mr. Fraga's Popular Alliance (AP) before the constitutional court on grounds that it violated parents' right to choose the kind of education they wanted for their children.

Leading Catholic intellectuals and politicians said in a manifesto the demonstration was to back "principles of private property and ideological control."

Indonesian drought claims 231 lives

JAKARTA (R) — Thousands of people are ill from famine-related diseases following a drought that has killed more than 230 people in a remote area of Indonesia, a government spokesman said Monday.

The spokesman told Reuters by telephone from Irian Jaya province that eight villages in Kurina district had been severely hit by the drought that began in August.

He confirmed a weekend report in the authoritative Jakarta newspaper Kompas that 231 people had died in Kurina.

The central government has rushed relief aid to the province, formerly Dutch New Guinea, he added.

But Irian Jaya's interior has no roads and there were few air strips where light planes could land.

An official of the Social Affairs Ministry in Jakarta said last week that the government learned of

the drought and famine only in October.

More than 300 deaths from hunger and disease were reported from the same area a year ago.

The spokesman said the region regularly had been hit by famine in the last decade.

The people of the area live virtually naked at high altitudes, apparently boosting their vulnerability to illness.

Palace denies Marcos surgery report

MANILA (R) — The Philippine Presidential Palace Monday denied press reports and widespread rumours that President Ferdinand Marcos was seriously ill and had undergone major surgery.

"This is false ... Information Minister (Gregorio) Cendana has gone out of his way to deny the rumours," a spokesman said.

But other palace sources said that neither Mr. Marcos nor his wife Imelda appeared to be at the palace.

"This is the first time in 20 years (of rule) that he has been out of contact with palace staff for more than two days," one source said.

"There is no argument but that the president has been ill," the source added. "The only question is what happened to him and where he is now."

Rumours about the 67-year-old president's health have been a continuing source of gossip and speculation for the past few weeks. According to one of the rumours he had flown to the United States for emergency treatment in Houston while another said he had been shot.

Former Information Minister Francisco Tatad, writing in the newspaper Business Day, quoted palace sources as saying Mr. Marcos "underwent a major surgical operation last Wednesday."

Mr. Tatad reported them as saying: "The operation was a success ... but medical informants who claimed to be familiar with the case could not say for sure whether he was completely past the crisis."

"They said he needed at least two operations, one involving the kidney and another the heart, and it is not known whether doctors had to perform just one or two surgeries."

The palace spokesman quoted Information Minister Cendana as denying on Friday rumours that Mr. Marcos was ill or out of the country.

The minister, who was at a boxing match, said he had seen Mr. Marcos the previous day in his study "looking over some papers. If he the president was sick, I would not be here watching the boxing."

Mr. Cendana added: "You know, rumours about the president's health have been circulating like wildfire. There is simply no truth to all these rumours."

The minister said that Mr. Marcos usually set aside Friday, Saturday and Sunday as rest days.

Mr. Tatad, who left the Marcos government in 1980 and is now a columnist with Business Day, said: "Amid the most distressing reports about the president's state of health, it is a matter of duty — not of choice — that official medical bulletins be issued by the government."

"The people have a right to know whether their president is ill or well, and the government has a duty to inform them. The very security of the nation is endangered by official silence or indifference."

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Man's hacked feet sewn back on

DUNDEE, Scotland (R) — A housewife used ice from a neighbouring fish and chip shop to freeze her husband's feet lying in a bucket after he had hacked them off with an axe. The severed limbs were sewed back on by surgeons at Dundee Royal Infirmary in an operation lasting 10½ hours.

A hospital spokesman said the man, Asiph Muhammad, a Pakistani immigrant aged 28 years had been suffering from severe bouts of depression since returning to Scotland from Pakistan earlier this year. His wife Karen said: "Asiph had lost his senses. I had to keep him in bed."

She found him, "frenzied with an axe by his side after he went to investigate a noise in a nearby room of their house."

Under the law, managers of church schools, attended by 22 per cent of Spanish children aged between six and 14, would be left in a minority on governing councils that also include representatives of teachers, parents and pupils.

Catholic Parents' Confederation President Carmen de Alvear, the main organiser of the march, said a million people had backed calls for a compromise on the law's implementation. Officials put attendance at 250,000.

Opposition parties backing the demonstration said it was a general protest against the government.

Rightist opposition leader Manuel Fraga, who marched behind the organisers, told Reuters: "This shows what ordinary citizens think about the Socialist government."

The education law, passed last March, was challenged by Mr. Fraga's Popular Alliance (AP) before the constitutional court on grounds that it violated parents' right to choose the kind of education they wanted for their children.

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GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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FORCE THAT ENTRY

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ 52
♥ A Q 7 6 5
♦ 8 7 6 4
♣ J 2

WEST

♠ 9 8 3
♥ 10 9 2
♦ K J 10
♣ 8 5 3

EAST

♠ 7 4
♥ K 10 8 4
♦ Q 5 2
♣ K 10 9 6

SOUTH

♠ A K Q J 10 6
♥ Void
♦ A 9 3
♣ A Q 7 4

The bidding:

South West North East
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♥ Pass
4 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Three of ♣.

Once you have opened with a demand bid, there is no need for you to be overly aggressive. You have described your hand, so you can afford to make minimum bids thereafter and leave it to partner to press on.

After receiving a positive response to his two spade opening, South simply showed his second suit. When North could do no better than take a preference to four spades, South wisely elected to pass. The fact that he was void in his partner's suit was a serious drawback.

Had North had anything in the way of extra values, he would have found some other

bid.

West got off to the best lead of a trump, and when dummy appeared even four spades was no laydown.

Declarer was faced with the possibility of losing two tricks in each minor suit, and he could not take advantage of the ace of hearts for a discard because there was no quick entry to dummy.

While declarer could have ruffed a club had West not led a trump, to pursue this course now would be throwing good coin after bad.

If declarer leads the ace of clubs and another, the defenders will win the king and play another trump, and now declarer has no way to avoid three more losers in the minor suits.

A sounder plan is to make use of dummy's jack of clubs. Declarer should win the trump and immediately lead the queen of clubs from hand!

The defenders have no satisfactory rejoinder. If East wins the king of clubs, the table's jack of